

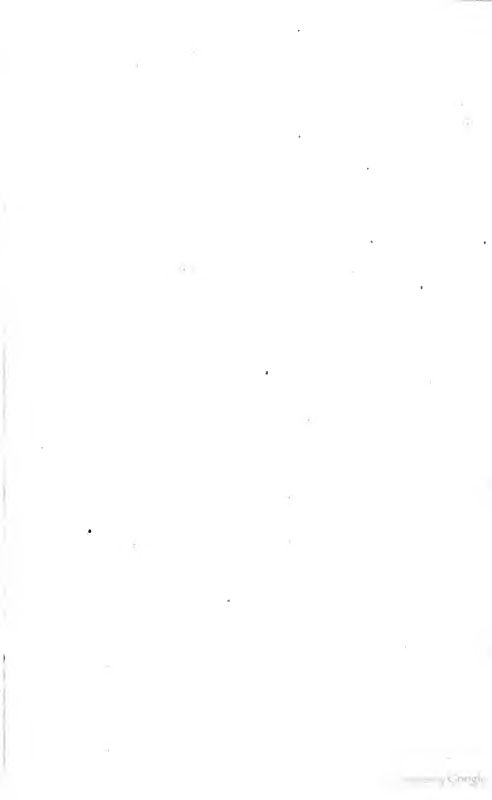






P. Eng.  $\frac{1857-58}{40}$







ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

*THIRTY VOLUMES.*

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—(8.)—

COLONIES.

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CAPE OF GOOD HOPE; GERMAN EMIGRANTS;  
IMMIGRANTS AND LIBERATED AFRICANS.

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Session

*3 December 1857 — 2 August 1858.*

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VOL. XL.

1857-58.

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# ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

1857-58.

## THIRTY VOLUMES:—CONTENTS OF THE EIGHTH VOLUME.

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THE  
R E P O R T S

*Made for the Year 1856 to the Secretary of State having the Department of the Colonies ;  
in continuation of the Reports annually made by the Governors of the British  
Colonies, with a view to exhibit generally*

THE PAST AND PRESENT STATE  
OF  
HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

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TRANSMITTED WITH THE BLUE BOOKS  
For the Year 1856.

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Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.  
1 June 1858.

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L O N D O N :  
PRINTED BY GEORGE EDWARD EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,  
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.  
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.  
1858.

# THE JOURNAL OF THE

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE

Volume 100, Part 1, 2007

ISSN 0954-6794 (print)  
ISSN 1364-5013 (online)

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**PART I.**  
**NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES.**

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## PART I.—NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES.

**CANADA**

**CANADA.**

## No. 1.

EXTRACT of DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir EDMUND HEAD to the  
Right Honourable H. LAPOUCHÈRE, M.P., dated Government House,  
Toronto, June 16, 1857.

(No. 93.) (Received July 3, 1857.)

I now proceed to comment partially on the substance of the information conveyed in this Blue Book for 1856; but I am happy to say that the uniform prosperity and tranquillity of Canada during the past year leave me but little to add to the results visible on the face of these documents.

With regard to the various functionaries employed in the colony, the increased cost of living, and the expenses thrown on individuals in consequence of the removal of the seat of government in 1855, had led in many cases to an increase of salaries and emoluments. I do not think that more has been done in this direction than was required by the altered state of the colony, and by the augmented price of all necessities of life. The article of house-rent alone has fallen very heavily on those clerks and other public servants who have been compelled to transfer their residence to Toronto. This city is increasing every day by new buildings, but as yet the rents of houses of a moderate size remain exorbitantly high.

The statement of expenditure and revenue at pages 10 and 11 of this return shows a gross revenue of the year, amounting £1,497,385 18 7 currency (equal to £1,230,728 3 2 sterling).

That of 1855 was £1,217,541 14 11 currency (equal to £1,000,719 4 10 sterling).

The net amount of customs duties levied in 1855 and 1856 respectively was

1855 = £813,819 11 3 currency = £668.892 15 10 sterling.

1856 - £1,028,905 9 2     „     = £845,675 14 4     „

The gross amount of expenditure, including interest on the public debt, was in

1855 - £1,194,880 13 9 currency = £982,093 14 4 sterling.

1856 - £1,309,433 14 0 „ = £1,076,246 16 9

It must be borne in mind that an increase in the tariff took place in the last session of Parliament, more especially with a view to meet the charge thrown on the province for interest on its debentures advanced to the Grand Trunk Railway Company.

In my despatch accompanying the Blue Book for 1855 I stated my reasons for attaching great importance to the progress of post office accommodation as a symptom and cause of improvement. It is unnecessary for me to repeat these views.

The number of post offices in operation in Canada in March 1855 was 1,293, in March 1856 1,375, being an increase of 82. The number of miles of annual mail travel increased from 4,559,761 to 4,803,285. The number of letters passing through the post office in one week in the two years was respectively as follows:—

1855	-	-	-	-	-	116,671
1856	.	.	.	.	.	135,474

# STATE OF HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS. 13

## Trade and Navigation, Vol. III.

CANADA.

The quantity of wheat shipped by sea from Canada in 1856 shows a remarkable increase over the returns of 1855.

1855	-	110,531 Bushels.
1856	-	633,905 "

The relative number and tonnage of vessels cleared outwards and entered at Canadian ports in these years was

1855	{ Cleared inward	1,168	-	419,533 Tons.
	{ Cleared outward	1,219	-	451,241 "
1856	{ Cleared inward	1,494	-	550,573 "
	{ Cleared outward	1,532	-	573,648 "

With regard to the timber trade, I desire particularly to call attention to some valuable remarks in the report of the late chief commissioner of crown lands (pp. 65-79), which point out the derangement of the trade, arising in many cases from the different interests of the lumberer who gets the wood out of the forest and the merchant who ships it at Quebec.

Without committing myself to an approval of all that is stated in this report, I do not hesitate to express an opinion that a decided change is required in the general management of the crown lands and timber department. The details are, however, so complicated, and the faults of administration (where they exist) are of such old standing, that great caution is required in dealing with the whole subject.

The working of the reciprocity treaty with the United States, so successfully negotiated by my predecessor, the Earl of Elgin, appears to me very favourable to Canada, or perhaps I should rather say very advantageous to all parties concerned in it. The following statements will show the export of horses and cattle across the frontier of Canada and the United States.

		1856.				
		£ s. d.				
Horses exported to the United States	- Value	122,873	4	6	currency.	
Horses imported from the United States	- "	53,797	19	6	"	
Difference		69,075	5	0	"	
Oxen and bulls exported	- Value	76,921	16	3	"	
" imported	- "	48,894	0	4	"	
Difference		28,027	15	11	"	
Cows exported	- Value	69,346	13	7	"	
" imported	- "	4,194	7	6	"	
Difference		65,152	6	1	"	
Sheep exported	- Value	20,011	15	3	"	
" imported	- "	6,363	16	11	"	
Difference		13,647	18	4	"	

In horses the principal export was from Montreal, Brockville, and especially Prescott.

Another great feature which will mark the year 1856 is the opening of the Grand Trunk Railway from St. Thomas below Quebec to Stratford, 88 miles west of Toronto. The communication in winter between Quebec and Montreal, Montreal and Kingston, Kingston and Toronto, has, until the present year, been precarious and sometimes even dangerous.

Making due allowance for the imperfect organization of a new railway staff over so extensive a line, and for the defects incident to so great an undertaking in a new country, our present communications may be pronounced safe and expeditious. A man starting from Toronto may, if he desires it, reach Quebec in less than 24 hours, even in winter. The quantity of freight offered for transport in the western portion of this line in the course of the winter just ended has been at times larger than the present rolling stock of the company enabled them to carry. This fact furnishes the best evidence of the advantage

which this line is destined to afford to the public. By far the larger portion of such freight must, under former circumstances, have lain idle for months in the hands of the producer, waiting for the opening of the navigation, or it must have been demanded by the wants of the retail dealer and consumer long before it could have been brought to their door. The traffic on the Great Western Railway, running from Windsor to the suspension bridge across the Niagara River, has become very large. A great number of cattle and pigs are transported across Canada into the United States by this line from the states westward of the Detroit River. The length and frequency of the trains carrying these animals is, at certain times, very remarkable.

Among the most important facts belonging to the year 1856 I ought to place that of the introduction of a complete municipal system into Lower Canada. The year will be referred to hereafter in the annals of the province, as marking the commencement of a great change. The experiment is scarcely a doubtful one; its success in Upper Canada warrants a confident hope that the same benefits will ensue from its adoption in the lower division of the colony.

It is true that difficulties have occurred and will occur in the working of these new municipal arrangements. The forms were strange at first to the French population. In some places unfounded apprehensions existed as to the increased expense to be thrown on the inhabitants of the country, whose habits and prejudices have inclined them to look in all things for the action of a central rather than a local executive. These misapprehensions will, I doubt not, be gradually removed. The Lower Canadians will learn to appreciate institutions which have so powerfully aided the progress of their brethren, and they will become convinced that the aim and object of municipal government is to enable men to manage their own affairs, control the expenditure of their own money, watch over their own local interests, and, when circumstances may require it, to bring the free public opinion of each municipal council to bear on the government of their own common country.

Under section 79. of the Act it is open to every rural municipality by a formal resolution submitted to the Governor in Council to adopt either the French or English language as that officially to be used in all municipal acts. If the officers of the municipality are not elected within a given time (45 days), the Governor may nominate fit and proper persons to carry on the business (sect. 36). The same powers of raising money on their own credit for public improvements as exist in Upper Canada will be now enjoyed by the municipalities of the lower portion of the province.

These institutions will, I trust, take root and flourish, and Her Majesty's subjects of French origin will then exhibit a capacity for local self-government and a spirit of progress; the want of which have sometimes been imputed to them as a defect. I venture to hope that the result will contrast in the strongest manner with the old picture of centralization in Canada a hundred years ago, as drawn—not by an unfriendly or a foreign hand—but by a French writer of consummate ability, who says of that system:

“On se trouve en présence de cette administration presque aussi nombreuse que la population, prépondérante, agissante, réglementante, contraignante, voulant prévoir tout, se chargeant de tout, toujours plus au courant des intérêts de l'administré qu'il ne l'est lui-même, sans cesse active et stérile.” (Tocqueville *L'Ancien Régime*, p. 409.)

In conclusion, I have only to say that the province is rapidly advancing in material prosperity, that the feeling of the population is loyal and true to the Queen, and that there is every reason to hope for the continuance of a sound and sober exercise of the powers of parliamentary government with which it is entrusted.

In connection with this latter point, I cannot forbear from offering some observations of a somewhat speculative character on the inestimable value of the union of Upper and Lower Canada, not with reference to the material interests so much as to the moral discipline and political conduct of their rulers. Whatever difficulties may attend our progress, whatever storms may threaten to ruffle or disturb the current of our political course, there is always one consolation. If it is difficult for any statesmen to stem their way amid the mingled interests and conflicting opinions of Catholic and Protestant, Upper and Lower Canadian, French and English, Scotch and Irish, constantly crossing and thwarting one another, it is probably to the action of these very cross

interests and these conflicting opinions that the whole united province will, under providence, in the end owe its liberal policy and its final success.

CANADA.

In such circumstances, constitutional and parliamentary government cannot be carried on except by a vigilant and careful attention to the reasonable demands of all races and of all religious interests. No ministry could afford to aid in Upper Canada Protestant fanaticism in a reckless crusade against Roman Catholic rights and interests, or could venture to support in Lower Canada the bigotry of any Catholics in oppressing the Protestant population. I do not affirm that such a disposition is likely to show itself in either section, but I assert that if it did exist, it could not, so long as the Canadas are one province, hold its ground as a principle guiding the government for a single session of Parliament. Whatever may be the personal convictions and whatever may be the religious belief of a Canadian politician, if he means to lead his countrymen as a whole, he must school his mind to principles of toleration, and he must learn to respect the feelings and even the prejudices of others who differ widely from himself. Among the first lessons which he must acquire is that which England has at length through bitter experience been taught in Ireland. He must imbibe the conviction that there are two sides to every question with which a statesman has to deal.

In my opinion, therefore, Sir, the union is invaluable both to Upper and Lower Canada. Its evils are fully compensated for, and the very conflict of races and opinions which makes our present course difficult and dangerous, holds out to the whole united province as its ultimate result the surest hope of sound self-government and individual freedom.

Speculations of this kind are not perhaps in their place in this Despatch; but I rejoice to think there can be no omen for the future happiness of a new country better than the existence of a state of things which makes consideration by every man for the feelings of others, and mutual forbearance on the part of all, the indispensable conditions of lasting political power and wide social influence.

## NOVA SCOTIA.

NOVA SCOTIA.

[The Annual Report for 1856 has not been received from the Province of Nova Scotia.]

## NEW BRUNSWICK.

NEW  
BRUNSWICK.

No. 2.

No. 2.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-Governor the Hon. J. H. T. MANNERS  
SUTTON to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 31.)

Government House,  
Fredericton, New Brunswick,  
December 23, 1857.

(Received January 26, 1858.)

Sir,

1. I HAVE the honour to forward to you, herein enclosed, the Blue Book for the past year, 1856.

2. Acting upon the suggestions contained in your Despatch Circular of 24th April last, I have obtained, and I now transmit to you, copies of several of the most important departmental reports and accounts, which throw additional light on the subjects to which they relate respectively, and on the general condition of the Province. These reports and accounts are annually laid before the Assembly, and appear in the Appendix to the Journals of the House of Assembly, (copies of which Journals are periodically sent to you,) but hitherto they have not, with few exceptions, been printed separately, and they have therefore been comparatively valueless, even in the Province, for any

NEW  
BRUNSWICK.

purpose, other than that of reference by members of the provincial legislature, or other persons directly engaged in the conduct of the public business of the Province. Arrangements, however, will hereafter be made for printing them in such a shape as will render all, or any one of them, available for circulation both in and out of the Province.

3. The past year, 1856, was not, so far as this Province was concerned, fruitful in events which require in this Despatch any special notice or remark from me.

4. It is, however, right that I should advert to the recommencement (as Government works, under the Railway Acts passed in 1856, 19 Vict. chapters 14, 15, 16, 17, 18,) of operations on the line of railway (from St. John to Shediac) previously commenced by the European and North American Railway Company, and to the renewed prosecution by the New Brunswick and Canada Railway and Land Company (to which company the undertaking was transferred under the provisions of the Act 19 Vict. c. 70.) of the line of railway from St. Andrew's to Woodstock (intended eventually to extend to Quebec) which had been commenced by the St. Andrew's and Quebec Railway Company. Operations on both these lines of railway had been suspended for some time, but were recommenced in 1856, and have been continued ever since without interruption.

5. You will observe that the tables both of imports and of exports for 1856 exhibit an increase over the corresponding tables for the preceding year; but I do not think that the year 1856 could with propriety be termed a prosperous year even for the commerce of the Province; and as regards agriculture, it certainly was the reverse, for although the grain crop was probably of an average character both in quality and quantity, the crop of potatoes (which are extensively cultivated here) was scanty in quantity and severely tainted (and in some districts almost destroyed) by the "disease."

6. But the general condition of the people of the Province was, upon the whole, very satisfactory; and while I am denied the gratification of being able to adduce proofs of any sudden or remarkable accession to the wealth or increase of the trade of the Province during the twelve months referred to in the returns enclosed in this Despatch, I am nevertheless convinced that to those who estimate the prospects of a community, not by the progress made by them in a few months, but by their steady and continuous advance during a succession of years, the past history of this Province and its present condition afford ample encouragement for the future.

7. Among the documents which accompany this Despatch you will observe the Report of a Commission on Agriculture. This Report does not properly belong to the year 1856, for although the Commission was appointed at the close of that year, the Report was not presented to me until a few months ago. But it nevertheless throws light on the condition and prospects of agriculture in the Province during the year 1856, and I have thought it right to transmit it to you.

8. Before I close this Despatch I desire to state that I hope to be able to forward to you the Blue Book Despatch for the present year, 1857, at a period less distant from that to which it will relate than has usually been the case.

There is, it appears to me, a double disadvantage in sending to Her Majesty's Government an exposition of what was the state of affairs in the Province some twelve or even twenty months previously. Firstly, the subjects to which the Despatch relates have lost their freshness in the mind of the writer, and even where this is not the case, subsequent events (on which, as they relate to a different period, he can but cursorily touch,) may have rendered and in many instances do render the account given, although true as regards the time to which it relates, incorrect or at least incomplete if that account be regarded as an explanation of the condition of the Province at the time when the Despatch is received.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. T. MANNERS SUTTON.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.,  
&c.

&c.

LIST of RETURNS and ACCOUNTS forwarded in duplicate with Despatch No. 31.,  
December 23, 1857.

NEW  
BRUNSWICK.

1. Provincial Treasury Accounts.
2. Receiver General's Accounts.
3. Customs Returns.
4. Crown Land Office Returns.
5. Public Works Report and Accounts.
6. Postmaster General's Report.
7. Education Report and Accounts of King's College.
8. Provincial Penitentiary.
9. Provincial Lunatic Asylum.
10. Lighthouse Reports and Accounts.
11. Board of Health, St. John.
12. Return of Banks and Incorporated Companies.
13. Steamboat Inspector's Report.
14. Agricultural Commission Report.

## PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

PRINCE EDWARD  
ISLAND.

No. 3.

No. 3.

EXTRACT of DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor Sir D. DALY to the  
Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE, M.P., dated Government House, Prince  
Edward Island, January 5, 1858.

(No. 1.)

(Received January 26, 1858.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book of this colony for 1856 in duplicate.

There is nothing that calls for special notice in the returns of revenue and expenditure for 1856 as compared with those of the preceding year, and indeed the same may be said of every portion of these returns.

The progress of the colony in material improvement, though not rapid, may under all circumstances be considered satisfactory.

The fisheries are attracting somewhat more attention, and not at any sacrifice of agricultural pursuits, which still continue to be the favourite occupation of the people.

The present state of commercial matters however is very much affected by the monetary pressure which has been and still is so universally felt, but, except to those who have been engaged in ship-building, there appears reason to hope that the consequences will not ultimately be very injurious.

A very considerable diminution has taken place in the prices of all agricultural produce, the effect of which, however, upon that branch of industry is much mitigated by the abundance of the last harvest, which has the further advantage of affording cheap food to the unusual number of hands at present out of employment.

I regret that I am unable to report any favourable alteration in the state of the militia, for the increased efficiency of which no provision has as yet been made by the legislature.

NEW-  
FOUNDLAND.

No. 4.

## NEWFOUNDLAND.

No. 4.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir ALEXANDER BANNERMAN to the  
Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 84.)

Government House, St. John's, Newfoundland,  
November 3, 1857.

(Received November 30, 1857.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book for this colony for the year 1856. It was prepared some time ago, but, by inadvertence, had lain in the secretary's office.

2. As I only arrived at St. John's on the 10th of June last, I shall abstain from making any observations on the state of Newfoundland until a future opportunity, farther than that I am happy to say the fishery for this season has been a good one, that the population has been fully employed, earning good wages, and I trust that there will be less pauperism prevailing among them than has been the case for several years past.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) A. BANNERMAN.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.,  
&c.                      &c.

H. LAB

BERMUDA.

No. 5.

## BERMUDA.

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Governor MURRAY to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE, M.P., dated Bermuda, June 22, 1857.

(No. 72.) (Received July 13, 1857.)

HEREWITH I have the honour to forward the Blue Book for the year  
1856.

I shall forward the Duplicate Blue Book by the next mail, with my remarks  
thereon.

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Governor MURRAY to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE, M.P., dated Government House, Bermuda, August 8,  
1857.

(No. 82.) (Received September 7, 1857.)

THE year 1856 may be looked upon as an exceptional year, for the prevalence of epidemic yellow fever caused so much disturbance to trade and agriculture that it would be impossible to judge of the condition of either from the returns of that year; it is only remarkable that the colony did not suffer greater loss in its material interests under such unfavourable circumstances.



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PART II.

WEST INDIES, MAURITIUS,  
AND THE SEYCHELLES ISLANDS.

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Enclosure 1 in No. 7.

HONDURAS.

Encl. 1 in No. 7.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Mr. Superintendent SEYMOUR to  
Lieutenant Governor BELL.

(No. 13.)

SIR,

Belize, May 28, 1857.

I HAVE the honour to forward in duplicate the Blue Book of the settlement of British Honduras for the year 1856.

My predecessor, in his Despatch, No. 22, of the 2d of March, furnished a Report on the contents of the volume I now transmit.

I have, &amp;c.

His Excellency (Signed) FREDERICK SEYMOUR.  
Lieut. Governor Major General Bell.

Enclosure 2 in No. 7.

Encl. 2 in No. 7.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Mr. Superintendent STEVENSON to  
Lieutenant Governor BELL.

(No. 22.)

SIR,

Government House, Belize, March 2, 1857.

THE usual time has not yet arrived for the completion and transmissal of the "Blue Book Returns" of the transactions of last year; but, on the eve of my removal from this Government, and of the arrival of my successor, I have pressed for their earlier completion, in order that I may be afforded the final opportunity of making the customary Report thereon, and thereby saving to my successor the circuitous duty of furnishing such Report from the information he would necessarily be obliged to derive from other sources of knowledge than his own, stranger as he will be to all the last year's occurrences in this settlement.

At the time of writing this Report those Returns are not yet completed, and I fear they may not be in time to accompany this Report by the present packet; but, if not, they will, when transmitted be referred to this Despatch for any information it may afford, and will be made up as usual on the Colonial Secretary's responsibility.

#### *Taxes, Duties, &c.*

There was no material alteration during the January Session of 1856 in the taxes and duties imposed in the previous year beyond a small additional duty on imported spirits, equal to the duty on home-made spirits which it was in contemplation to impose during that January Session, but which was not imposed until the August Special Session; but at that August Special Session it became necessary to raise an additional revenue to meet the casualties of the fire which occurred last Midsummer, and to provide a fund to be additionally pledged for certain improvements to the town which the ravages of the fire rendered it expedient to make, as well as to liquidate some unforeseen expenses which had been incurred by the sanitary board, which latter, however, fell on the general revenue, in consequence of this intended tax in aid not having been immediately available for such unforeseen expenses.

It was in vain attempted to induce the Legislature to pass a local rate or tax for the defrayal of these local demands,—a course of direct taxation to which they have always exhibited an unconquerable aversion,—and the result was the imposition, for the first time, of a duty of 2s. per cwt. on sugar, and 1s. a gallon on spirits manufactured in the northern district and consumed in the settlement, being the same duty that was in contemplation at the previous January Session, but not then imposed.

The specific pledge of a tax of this sort on the manufactures of a distant district, for payment of the local burdens of a town in which the taxpayers did not reside, was only justifiable under the circumstances of the entire revenue of the settlement (with trifling exceptions) being drawn from "imports," and of those imports having greatly fallen off in those two items of sugar and spirits, by reason of the recent and extended manufacture of such commodities in the northern district for consumption in the settlement.

BONDURAS

An attempt has again been made, during the session lately terminated, to substitute a local tax or town rate, for taxes specially devoted to the town improvements, but with the same results, although some modification has been made, which has rendered the duties on these home-made sugars and spirits less distasteful to the manufacturers of the northern district.

*Comparative Statement of Revenue and Expenditure.*

In these tables there would still have been exhibited a continuing diminution of the imported sugar and spirit duties (notwithstanding the large importation of spirits that was required to supply the quantity destroyed by last year's fire) had it not been for the small additional duty imposed in January, 1856. The withdrawal of the drawback, which was experimentally omitted from last year's annual law, may however account for any deficit in that part of the customary importation that would otherwise have been destined for exportation elsewhere; and I fear that a system of undetected smuggling may also account for the consumption in the town of much spirit that never passes under the notice of the Customs. The many unguarded approaches to the settlement, coupled with the deficiency of our preventive service, amply justify the conviction that smuggling and excise frauds are still to be brought under executive consideration.

The "Ordinary Revenue" of last year would have been amply sufficient for all items of ordinary expenditure, had it not been for the casualties I have mentioned, and which were attempted to be met by the sugar and spirit duties I have spoken of, but which, being of prospective imposition, did not (except to a very small extent) fall within last year's receipts; the result was a temporary loan of the difference of a few hundred dollars from the "Special Revenue," which, as will be seen, still preserves its balance over the "Special Expenditure" charged upon it, and for which it will no doubt prove amply sufficient, when it is drawn to its close, as it will be at the end of the present year.

The increase and decrease of revenue between the past and previous years are nearly equal to each other, the increase in some items in 1856 over the same items of 1855 being 2,062*l.*, and the decrease in others being 2,023*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.*, leaving a general increase of only 38*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.* over the revenues of 1855.

In the returns of "Expenditure" there is exhibited an increase of 4,725*l.* 7*s.* over that of 1855, but this arises from the new buildings in course of erection, and other items of necessary expenditure, consequent on the two destructive fires that lately desolated parts of this town.

There was at the end of December last a satisfactory balance in hand of 5,353*l.* 14*s.* on the two balances of Special and General Revenue for the previous year.

*Legislation.*

At the last January Session twenty Acts were passed, one only of which was afterwards disallowed, as was to some extent anticipated, by reason of its departure (although in some necessary particulars) from the Imperial Statute which produced it, namely, the Act relating to local lighthouses, being "Chap. XVII. in aid of the Merchant Shipping Act Amendment Act, 1855." And, during the July Special Session, six Acts were passed, which were for the most part superinduced by the calamity of the fire, and by the crime of incendiarism to which it had been traced.

Among the Acts of January the following are those which either effect alterations in the constitutional arrangements, or are not among those of usual annual reproduction, viz. :—

Chapter I., which qualifies resident aliens, who speak and understand the English language, and who carry on business on their own accounts or in partnership with others, or who manage the business of others; for serving on juries, as well as for filling minor public offices or municipal employments, when required to fill the same, provided such offices or employments do not render it necessary to take the oath of allegiance before they can be performed. This Act arose out of the presence in this town of large numbers of aliens, who have for years past been resident here and identified with the inhabitants, but who, in consequence of their strict want of qualification for service on

juries; have always claimed their exemption, and thereby thrown those onerous duties on a comparatively small number of qualified persons, while at the same time they have shrink from civic or municipal offices under the same claim of exemption. The effect has been to throw a great deal of fresh intelligence into our jury boxes, and to afford many valuable acquisitions to the gratuitous municipal offices which it had always been so difficult to fill. As a necessary safeguard, however, as well as to prompt the naturalization of the most intelligent classes of foreigners, it has been made a published requirement of all persons appointed to offices of emolument, as well as to any judicial or magisterial offices (whether of emolument or not), to take the oath of allegiance before entering on the duties of their offices.

Chapter II. is the very partial result of a recommendation I made, that a third officer should be appointed to assist the Colonial Secretary and the public Treasurer in the performance of those duties which, by virtue of their primary offices, they have to perform in the collection and control of the Customs and Inland Revenues of the settlement, and which duties of Customs have engrossed so much of the time of the Colonial Secretary (to whose office it is wholly foreign) that it has detracted greatly from his more immediate executive service; while the sole and unassisted employment of the Treasurer always threatened some casualty to the books or the chest, in the event of his suffering from any long-continued illness or other accident. The partial cure accomplished by this Act has been only to give clerical assistance to the Colonial Secretary, while the Treasurer's duties still remain subject to all the possible casualties that are inseparable from the single and unassisted position of a public cashier and book-keeper. Fortunately, however, there has not yet occurred any reason to regret the want of greater precaution in this public department.

Chapter III. which authorizes the restraint, under certain circumstances, of lunatics who are dangerous to the community, or who possess no property to defray the charge of private guardianship. There has for some years past been a lunatic asylum of very inferior arrangement and accommodation, in which a few "criminal lunatics" have been placed, but there never was any constitutional right of placing in safe custody lunatics of any other description. Arrangements were made last year for a new lunatic asylum, which has now been completed; and, upon my recommendation to the Legislature of the present year that a board of management should be formed for the control of this institution, as well as of the public hospital which it closely adjoins, a committee was appointed to take the matter into consideration, and to prepare a Bill for the management of these institutions; but other pressing business, and the illness of a principal member, prevented its maturity.

Chapter IV. gives larger and better jurisdiction to the magistrate of the northern district, and improves its police arrangements; authorizes the formation of local boards of wardens; and provides a district prison for those offenders under short sentences and for inferior offences, who were formerly sent to the common gaol of Belize at a large expense and a sacrifice of time, which the offences and their sentences in no way justified. Under this Act temporary arrangements only have been made, but others are in contemplation, and the gaol is in an advanced state of progress.

Chapter V. provides a small stipend of £300 a year for a missionary and schoolmaster for the northern district, with 20*l.* for the rent of a cottage. From the correspondence, proceeding from the Secretary of State, in reference to my previous report of the spiritual wants of this district, I was led to hope that a permanent provision for this much-needed missionary would have ensured the appointment of a zealous and well-qualified person by the instrumentality of one or other of the Missionary Societies whose emissaries would be likely to succeed in this section of the settlement, which in my correspondence I fully described. Of qualified and conditional promises there seem to have been several, and the respective Bishops of Jamaica and of Kingston have added theirs to the list, from which our expectations have been drawn; but, notwithstanding, no missionary has yet appeared; and, with the exception of the small but zealous Roman Catholic efforts at Colonal, there is neither religious ministry or teaching, nor secular education of any sort, within the district occupied by that large but scattered population.

## HONDURAS.

Chapter VIII., to amend the Schools' Acts, makes many essential improvements in the educational system of the settlement, which are only now beginning to show their superiority over past arrangements, but which superiority will soon be made more apparent when the new schools, which are fast advancing towards completion, are occupied by the new teachers. The salaries and accommodation of those teachers who are required to be "trained and certificated" are liberally increased, pupil payments are to be conveniently regulated, Congregational schools are relieved from too severe a government control over their systems, while at the same time they are held in sufficient check by the Board and the Inspector of the National Schools, and the appointment of masters of those latter schools is now vested in their ministers and congregations, subject to a test of their sufficiency by the Board. A wholesome but necessary control over pupils out of school is given to the masters by the sanction of the Board. Inspections are established and an "Industrial Department" is to be organized for both the boys and girls free schools. These provisions, and other arrangements which are already in the course of execution, promise great improvements when they can be fully brought into operation.

Chapter IX., an extradition law of offenders escaping to this settlement from the State of Mexico, to be brought into operation when a reciprocal law is passed by Mexico and proclaimed at Belize.

Chapter X. is an attempt to induce persons to accept the office of magistrate in the distant and outlying districts of the settlement, by giving them half their collections of duties instead of fixed salaries; and although I have recommended to the Legislature a small fixed salary to each of these district magistrates, as a temptation to more intelligent persons to go and reside there, I have not been successful in securing it. The population in these districts is certainly very widely scattered, and the feeling is rather opposed to a system of paid magistracy, until such populations become sufficiently concentrated, in one or more localities, to justify its introduction.

Chapter XII. amends the "Courts' Jurisdiction Act" in certain respects, particularly in the sanction of a verdict by nine jurors when twelve are not unanimous, in all cases of treason or felony, as well as in minor cases, in which alone such verdicts were sanctioned by the former Act.

Chapter XIX., to amend the law of evidence, authorizes the examination upon oath out of Court of witnesses who are too dangerously or permanently ill or infirm to attend a trial, or who are about to leave the jurisdiction, the evidence to be taken in certain prescribed circumstances, and to be used at the trial in case of the witnesses continuing inability to attend. It also authorises affirmations instead of oaths by witnesses, whose conscientious scruples prohibit the oath.

Among the laws passed at the August Special Session were the following Acts of a constitutional character, viz. :—

Chapter I., to authorize during a limited time (now expired) the deportation of certain aliens and other persons under circumstances of suspicion. This Act sprang out of the circumstances connected with the incendiary fires of last July, which caused strong suspicions to attach to several persons who were either aliens or strangers to the place, and some of whom had upon many occasions given just grounds for believing that they were in the confederacy which resulted in such disastrous consequences and threatened so much more destruction to the town. This law was about to be enforced against one person, who was afterwards arrested for a plot of another description, but subsequently escaped from prison; and it was also about to be enforced against several others, when they were likewise apprehended upon evidence of rather more conclusive character; but before it could be ripened to conviction, and while it still remained doubtful of sufficiency, they solicited or gladly acquiesced in their own deportation, which was accordingly accomplished; but in the meantime it was gratifying to find, as an effect of this law, that all the principal persons on whom the strongest suspicions rested, speedily found means of withdrawing quietly from the country, or applied (under various pretexts) to be sent away at the public expense, and thus the country was speedily relieved of the presence of some of those whose disaffection and agitations had caused so much uneasiness and produced so much calamity.

Chapter II. was a very necessary law in a country like this, in which the towns are all closely constructed and the houses entirely of wood, and where fires are productive of such wholesale destruction. It declares it to be a felony for any one, unlawfully and maliciously, to set fire to any partially erected building, or to any combustible material whatever; and also declares it to be a felony in any one, unlawfully and maliciously, to communicate the design of setting fire to any such combustible material, either for the purpose of inducing persons to aid in the design or otherwise. And it declares it to be a misdemeanor to declare such intention, openly or by innuendo, without having such aid of accomplices particularly in view.

Chapter III. provided extensive arrangements for widening the streets, and generally improving the recently burnt district of the town of Belize, with compensation to be paid for the public purchases.

In Chapter IV. is one clause (XI.) which declares a new felony, also arising out of the casualties of the fire, at which many persons, under pretext of assisting in the removal of goods, occupied themselves in plunder to an enormous extent. After, in various clauses assigning certain well known places of reception for rescued goods, Clause XI. declares it to be a felony for any one to be detected in removing goods to any other than the assigned places, and to be unable to give a clear and satisfactory account of his authority, and of the manner of his becoming possessed of such goods.

And Chapter V. is the Act to which I have already referred under the head of "Duties and Taxes," imposing a duty on the home-manufactured sugar and spirits of the northern district.

#### *Civil Establishment.*

I was too sanguine last year, when I expressed a hope that the difficulties I had pointed out in my previous year's report under this head were likely to be removed by the labours of a legislative recess-committee that had been appointed to investigate and report the specific duties performed by those public officers who held plural offices at one fixed salary, thereby making all their offices primary ones, and rendering an irregularity or incompetency in one fatal to all.

That committee, for some unexplained reason, failed to prosecute the intended investigations during the year; and at the meeting of the house, explained that they had not done so "as they had reason to believe that the "plural duties in question were not more than one gentleman ought easily to "perform, and that the salary was not greater than a gentleman of respectability "would require;" thereby unfortunately begging the whole question, and leaving their important inquiries unperformed, and the plural offices in question precisely as they were.

And this is a great mistake; for, although all these plural duties, if fairly spread throughout the year, and if it were possible to perform them at a time at which one could not interfere with the others, might be easily within the compass of one man's industry, yet the difficulties arise from the impossibility of performing all simultaneously.

One of these difficulties, however, will be removed at the end of this year, by the operation of law, as the "Clerk of the Courts and Keeper of the Records," who under the "Constitution" Act had been very mistakenly made Clerk of the Assembly during the first quadrennial Parliament, will cease to be so in December, when that first Parliament will be at an end, and a new officer must be elected; and unless some more convenient changes can be effected, I fear he may not again be permitted to act, although in his legislative duties he has proved, I believe, a competent and useful officer.

I have always considered it exceedingly objectionable that the "Clerk of the Assembly," through whose hand all the minutes, materials of legislation, and bills, in their progress into "laws" necessarily pass, and by whom they are exclusively kept and controlled, should also be the keeper of the higher records of the country, including those very "laws," and that he should be the only person responsible for those laws, and for their safe custody, punctual transmissal, and accurate registration; for, no sooner is assent given to a law

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that has passed through all its different stages of progress while in the custody of the "Clerk" and private officer of the Assembly, than it is returned to the custody of the same individual, in the different public character of "Keeper of the Records," in which latter capacity a new responsibility arises, of keeping securely that "Record," placing it upon correct registry, and superintending or providing the official and printed copies that are required for transmissal, under seal or otherwise, for general distribution. So that, in these double duties, not only might there arise many errors, confusions, or accidents, but there must always be a difficulty in determining where the private duties and responsibilities of "Clerk" terminate, and the public duties of "Keeper of Records" begin.

A very trifling re-adjustment of duties would have removed some of the principal difficulties, and still left all congruous plural offices, where necessary, in the same single officer, without any diminution of salaries. And I think that if the high and responsible office of "Keeper of the Public Records and of the Great Seal" had been allowed to devolve (as should be the case) on the "Colonial Secretary," and he had been relieved of the detail duties of the "Customs and Revenues," which do not very properly belong to his executive office, and his assistant had been made a "separate officer," as I suggested, but to a sufficient extent under his control and that of the officiating "Collector of the Customs," a far more satisfactory arrangement would have ensued, and at the same time the difficulty of the "Clerk of the Courts" being also allowed to act as "Clerk of the Assembly" (if elected) would in some measure have ceased; for those two officers might not have interfered much with each other, neither would the "Clerk's" custody of private records, such as deeds, wills, &c., have been at all objectionable.

For most other purposes of "executive" arrangement, the "Civil Establishment" may be considered sufficient. But, if ordinary "civic or municipal" duties are to be well performed by those who are to be responsible for their performance, I think, and have often recommended, that paid instead of gratuitous services should be provided; for not only is it difficult sometimes to secure the latter, but, when secured, it is still more difficult to ensure their steady and responsible performance. In many respects, however, as much is perhaps accomplished by gratuitous means as can reasonably be expected of gentlemen who are fully engaged in their own pursuits; but paid services are always to be preferred, as they can then be controlled and enforced, at the peril of removal from the office.

#### *Ecclesiastical Establishment.*

The observations I made in my report of last year are, in all important respects, equally applicable to the present year's report, and I have seen no reason to vary the view I then took of the peculiar requirements of the church in this settlement; but, on the contrary, have had every confirmation given to that opinion.

My view then was that, in the peculiar condition of this town, as well as of the settlement generally, very much more is required of the clergymen of the Church of England than the mere performance of services in the church, and that a large amount of zeal and energy are positively necessary for conveying the light of the gospel to those who never enter a church, and who rarely receive any other instruction than that which may be imparted to some of them by the more zealous and laborious emissaries of the Romish and Dissenting Churches; and I have ventured to express an opinion that the duties of our clergymen to be of greater efficacy here should be of a far more missionary, zealous, and searching character than it now is, that our galls and eleemosynary institutions should be better served, and that our poor and spiritually destitute, who never can or will enter a church, should be themselves visited at their own homes by those whose religious profession and duty it is to throw a ray of gospel light into all darkened recesses, and to draw to the church those who do not spontaneously go there.

The incumbent of St. John's is, as I stated last year, an infirm old gentleman who has performed his duties here for upwards of thirty years, and now much requires the assistance of a curate, whom, however, he does not employ,



although I think now, as I suggested last year, that it is very necessary that he should do so, for the numberless active duties of religious instruction and ministration that he cannot perform himself. But I believe he does his best to perform the services of his church with regularity and precision, and to accomplish his visits to the sick when his services are immediately required. But more than this, it cannot be expected that he can accomplish, unaided by an assistant.

The incumbent of St. Mary's, who is likewise Garrison Chaplain, also performs the services of his church with all proper regularity, I believe; and I assume that the usual garrison service on Sundays is performed with equal punctuality. But with the vast field of labour that is open to a zealous minister of the gospel on that side of the town in which St. Mary's is situated, where are to be found the largest and most scattered portion of the population, and at the same time those who require the most careful and sedulous instruction, I should be glad to feel assured that a larger amount of "work" could be accomplished there, among the sick, the neglected, and the poor.

There may not, perhaps, with the permanent population of this town, be more spiritual labour to be performed than two active and zealous men could well undertake; but if activity or zeal, or both, be deficient the "work" can only be partly performed, and with anything but efficiency in its out-door searching services.

With the garrison chaplaincy the "settlement" has of course nothing to do; nor is the "Garrison Chaplain," I believe, accountable to the bishop of this diocese; neither does it concern the inhabitants of this place, whether, besides the formal Sunday service, any separate religious instruction is or is not given to the soldiery or to their children; but I conceive, that if that duty be fully enforced, the incumbent of St. Mary's might be unable sufficiently to perform all or many of those ministerial duties towards the sick and the poor within his own district which the settlement pays for, and the inhabitants expect to be fully performed.

A foundation, however, is now laid for some more convenient alteration in these respects; for, by a Bill which has been passed during the last January Session (on which I have reported in Despatch No. 5, of the 11th of February), the salary of the incumbent of St. Mary's, when he ceases to be Garrison Chaplain, is to be augmented from three to four hundred a year, a sum amply sufficient to support the position of that incumbent, independently of the garrison appointment.

That garrison duty, I think, should be given to a third clergyman, if one could be provided for that duty, who, in case of physical disability or other cause affecting either of the other clergymen, might be open to an engagement as curate, in respect of which he would be responsible to his immediate principal.

Since the perusal of some correspondence with the Lord Bishop of Jamaica, which resulted from my last year's Report under this head, I have taken some additional means of ascertaining, through the ministers of different religious bodies, their estimated amounts of their respective congregations, and of the probable permanent population of the town, its fluctuating increase at Christmas, and the permanent as well as transitory population of the districts; and the following seem to be the average results:—

The Roman Catholics of the town are estimated at	1,000
The Wesleyans of ditto - - - -	450 to 500
The Presbyterians, about - - - -	240
The Baptists, about - - - -	500
The Church of England, about - - - -	2,500
Those who are not known to belong to any particular Church (although most of them are supposed to have been baptized into the Church of England), probably - - - -	2,000
Making an aggregate of about	6,740

And that number is very little short of the average permanent population of the town, which has been estimated from various other sources at nearly the

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following results, and which is thus stated by the following clergymen and ministers :—

The Roman Catholics conjecture about	-	-	6,000
The Wesleyans say probably about	-	-	8,000
The Presbyterians say the average is	-	-	6,500
The Baptists regard the number as nearly	-	-	8,000
The Church of England estimate it at about	-	-	6,500
			<hr/>
			5)35,000
			<hr/>
			7,000
			<hr/>

All, however, agreeing that at Christmas the numbers are augmented by nearly half the number more.

Besides this town population of Belize, the average district population may be thus estimated :—

Northern District, permanent population	-	-	5,500
Southern ditto, ditto, about	-	-	4,000
Western ditto, ditto, about	-	-	3,000
			<hr/>
Being an addition of	-	-	12,500
			<hr/>

While the transient population is at least 2,000, and the transient country population may be estimated at from 3,000 to 5,000 more.

Thus the permanent population of the town being estimated at	-	-	7,000
And the permanent population of the country at	-	-	12,500
			<hr/>

Gives a number of - - - - - 19,500

permanent residents to be spiritually served, besides a transient town population of from 3,000 to 5,000 persons; and this must necessarily make some difference in the estimate of service to be performed in this settlement, as stated in the correspondence I have alluded to, as having arisen out of my last year's report.

I need only add to this Report, that the "missionary and schoolmaster" for the northern district, for whom I mentioned in my last report a tributary stipend of 150*l.* a year had been secured from the settlement, had not since been furnished, although the "Colonial Church and School Society" proposed to furnish some aid towards the stipend, and the Bishops of Jamaica and of Kingston both promised to use their exertions in procuring one. Such a missionary is much wanted, and will be gratefully welcomed in that district.

#### *Population.*

No regular census has ever been taken of the population of this settlement; and, in consequence of the constant changes that take place, and the difficulty, and perhaps impossibility, of finding the proper machinery for taking one, it might be considered an impracticable difficulty to make one that could be at all relied on.

During the last year, however, attempts have been made to obtain approximate estimates of the population of various parts of the settlement, and particularly of the town, as I have shown in the immediately preceding "Ecclesiastical" Report; and the following appears to be, as nearly as possible, the average of various estimates that have been given me by those who are best able to judge of the general population, transient as well as permanent, of the various districts of the settlement.

Estimated permanent population of the town of Belize, about	-	-	7,000
Ditto of the northern district	-	-	5,500
Ditto of the southern district	-	-	4,000
Ditto of the western district	-	-	3,000
			<hr/>
Estimated permanent population	-	-	19,500

Transient town population (not included in that permanently assigned to the several districts of the country), about - - - 2,000

Transient population of the country (not including that permanently assigned to the town), about - - - - - 4,000

I have every reason to believe that these average estimates are as nearly correct as it is possible to ascertain them, without the more certain but impracticable process of a census.

### *Education.*

I have little to report under this head beyond a continuing hopefulness in the satisfactory working of all the improvements which have lately been commenced, and are now in course of prosecution, but which will not be developed in their full usefulness until the arrival of all the expected teachers, and the commencement of operations in the new central schools.

These schools have not yet been completed in consequence of many interruptions that have been experienced, among which has been the difficulty of securing sufficient workmen, of whom so many have had their services engaged elsewhere since the great demand occasioned by the late fire. And the destruction, by the same fire, of many of the prepared materials for the principal schools also occasioned considerable delay. It is hoped, however, that in the course of a few weeks the buildings will have so far advanced as to be available for use; and by that time the remaining trained teachers may have arrived, one only,—the head master and inspector,—having yet come out under his engagement.

But already has the advantage of trained and efficient discipline begun to manifest itself in the boys' school since the arrival of the head master, who is fast throwing chaos into comparative order and listlessness into animation; and this not only in the boys' school under his immediate instruction, but in the girls' school also, which has for many years past been subject to the greatest mismanagement, but is now under his occasional inspection and general direction.

And when the central schools are brought into use, and open to the inspection of those who from curiosity or interest are induced to make them occasional visits, I feel very confident that the people will show their marked approbation of the improvements, and will give every additional countenance and support to the enlarged scheme of education, which, indeed, has already produced very gratifying expressions of public satisfaction.

### *Agriculture and Manufactures.*

In last year's Report allusion was made to the recent commencement of cane cultivation among the Spanish and Indian immigrants who have settled in the northern district of the settlement, and who, within the last few years, had introduced such cultivation, and the manufacture of an inferior quality of sugar and rum into that district of the settlement. The late reports of the magistrate of that district give favourable accounts of the progress of that cultivation, so far as respects the quantity of land in use and the prospects for the ensuing year, although no improvement is said to have been made in the culture of the cane or in the manufacture of the sugar and rum.

The extent of land now in use for the approaching crop of 1857 is reported to be nearly 800 acres in that new district; and the magistrate, by whom the returns are collected for purposes of duty, considers that the wants of the settlement in the two articles of sugar and rum will soon be more than fully supplied by the northern district alone. The quality, however, is for the most part far too inferior for export; and, unless great improvements are made in the process of manufacture, both sugar and rum must be devoted to home consumption, and the enterprise of the cultivators be limited to that object alone. I have, however, seen one sample of home-made sugar which would do credit to almost any market; and this clearly proves that, if attention were paid to the process of manufacture, the products of this country would be very greatly enhanced.

Although the country is, for the most part, adapted to almost any variety of tropical production, and the rivers and lagoons would furnish an inexhaustible supply of water for the purposes of irrigation, no cultivation has hitherto been attempted, beyond that of some of the most common vegetables or "provisions" of the country, and the cane to a limited extent; but this is no place for agricultural experiments, nor is it likely to become so while the great staples of mahogany and logwood demand the services of all the available labour of the

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country. The labourers have hitherto been habituated to that pursuit alone, and are always sure of employment at their accustomed work, whenever they choose to leave their own small plantations, even at the enormous wages they demand,—wages which could never be afforded for agricultural services of any sort, even if the labourers were at all fit for that new employment, which they are not. The country is also wholly unfenced, and open to the trespasses of cattle and other animals, and the expense of enclosures would be enormous, and certainly this is not a likely country to tempt persons to migrate hither, and form an agricultural population, when there are so many more tempting fields for adventure in other parts of the world and in better climates than this.

*Gaols and Charitable Institutions.*

The new gaol, which was designed after the destruction of the last by fire, has not yet been quite completed, although it is sufficiently advanced to admit of the use of a number of cells in the principal building whenever they may be required for additional prison accommodation; but as the wings are now nearly completed, and there is sufficient room in the temporary gaol, it will not probably be brought into occupation until the whole building is delivered up in a finished state by the contractors.

It is an excellent prison, and in all respects well ventilated and healthily situated; but in its arrangements accommodation is only afforded for prisoners' cells, for debtors and lighter offenders, for a prison hospital, and for the gaolers' living rooms. I have been exceedingly anxious to carry out the original design, which would have afforded an entire upper floor for the accommodation I desired to introduce of a prison "chapel and instruction room," two separate "workrooms" for male and female prisoners, and a small "reformatory" branch for juvenile offenders, all of which might have been added at a very trifling expense under the roof of the solid pile of mason work that now forms the gaol; but the desire to save the public funds, and to avoid any additional tax, however trifling, even for this important public purpose, seemed to prevail with those who control the finances, and to lead them to what I fear will prove a mistaken economy.

The small "lunatic" asylum, which is a mere wooden building, has been removed from its former situation within the area of the gaol premises, and is now erected within that of the public hospital, the same public officer attending to both. And it is hoped that the new system of discipline that is recommended for that institution may prove a successful one, although in so small and insignificant an institution medical residence is of course out of the question, and no sufficient pay is allotted for the employment of qualified persons to undertake the peculiar treatment that a proper system necessarily demands. For these reasons it can never, I fear, become an institution of any higher character than that of a mere place of personal restraint. In this settlement, and with the small numbers who are now or are likely to become inmates of this asylum, and with the limited means at command, it would be impossible to expect it to be otherwise. There are now only three occupants; one, a very harmless old woman, and two almost equally harmless "criminal lunatics," for which latter, as for those who are dangerous to the community if left at large, it is now alone designed.

I proposed during this last session that it should be invested with a proper and responsible constitution, conjointly with its sister institution of the "hospital," within the same area and under the same charge; but the duty of considering and of organizing such constitution, slight and simple as it apparently would be, has now been thrown over to the next session, and intrusted in the meantime to a "Recess Committee."

The asylum of the aged and infirm poor is now about to be re-erected in the immediate neighbourhood of the gaol; and this will be the third and only other eleemosynary institution for which the settlement has been able to make provision, all other "paupers" being out-door pensioners.

*General Remarks.*

Under the several preceding heads, I have fully reported on the various subjects which appeared to require any connected explanation; and I have little to add by way of "general remark."

But, in making this final report, I must be allowed to take a short and general glance at the present position of the internal affairs and institutions of the settlement, leaving them, as I am about to do, to be perfected under a new and improving administration.

The new constitution of the Government is, I think, sufficiently well suited to the position of the settlement as well as to any prospective changes which time and circumstances are likely soon to introduce; but, in some minor details to which I have already drawn legislative attention, a few trifling amendments may with advantage be made; and as some of the recently formed townships are now acquiring an important permanent population, as well as peculiar local interests, an extension of franchise in their favour would, I think, be desirable.

The Superintendent has a salutary check over any undue profusion or mistaken liberality in the appropriation of the revenues, by the necessity which is imposed on him of originating all grants and appropriations that proceed from the Assembly; while the just expenditure of appropriations, when once made, is sufficiently controlled by the standing committee of the Council, who examine and certify the accounts, and by the Superintendent in Council, who issues his warrant for all payments that are made from the treasury. To the Colonial Secretary and the Executive Council, in standing committee, has generally been entrusted the careful supervision and check of all accounts, as well as all minor details of executive arrangement; and, in all unusual or questionable cases, reference is made to the Superintendent in Council. Subject to the same reference to the Superintendent in Council the Colonial Secretary and the Executive Council are also entrusted with the effective execution of all arrangements sanctioned by the Legislature relating to public works and improvements and to general financial details.

In legislative measures the Superintendent has also the advantage of being able to send back to the House for amendment any laws that may have been passed and sent up to him for assent, and (accompanied by his own views and explanations) he may always send down to the House any Act of his own suggestion, which is at once taken up and considered by the Legislature as if it had originated with themselves.

The power of nominating three members of the Assembly, in addition to the eighteen elected by the people, greatly facilitates all communications and explanations to the Legislature, by enabling the Superintendent to place in the House the Colonial Secretary, the Public Treasurer, and the Attorney General. The first of those officials explains all executive details, and the wants of public institutions; the second answers all questions of finance, and the third all points of constitutional and judicial arrangement. The latter also prepares all Bills that are recommended by the Government, and watches others in their progress through the House.

And thus all executive and legislative arrangements, with due adherence to the new Constitution Law (carefully amended, as I have recommended it to be), may be made, as they have already been found, sufficient for all ordinary practical purposes; and as the legislative body is now limited to a smaller number of better selected men than composed the former "public meeting," and as they have been encouraged to attach all proper importance and responsibility to their position, I have no doubt that they will continue as they have begun to advance in gradual and certain improvement in their deliberative and working duties.

The judicial arrangements may now be said to be sufficiently complete for all the practical wants of the settlement, and are merely required to be continued in a course of careful and gradual improvement. A code of simple rules and practice, which has lately passed through the Legislature, gives as much certainty as appears to be required to the process and proceedings of the courts. But in the absence of a bar and of practising attorneys of any sort (the whole profession of the laws being regarded as *hostes humani generis* in this country) the want of a second legal advocate for the defence of prisoners, and for the general assistance of suitors, is often seriously felt; and, although the Attorney General is precluded from the advocacy of civil causes, in the Criminal Courts it is different, and ignorant and undefended prisoners often stand opposed to the whole force and machinery of the law.

Magisterial and constabulary authority and social control are also greatly needed in the more remote districts of the settlement, but the absence of



## BAHAMAS.

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No. 8.

No. 8.

COPY of a DESPATCH from GOVERNOR BAYLEY to the Right Honourable  
H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 30.)

Government House, Nassau, N.P., Bahamas,

July 1, 1857.

SIR,

(Received August 18, 1857.)

In forwarding the annual Blue Book of the Bahamas for the year 1856, I must repeat the apology which I have already made for the delay in its preparation, and at the same time I must plead my short residence in the colony as an excuse for the paucity and brevity of the comments which accompany these papers. I feel that until I have a more intimate knowledge of the resources, capabilities, and antecedent history of the colony, it will be wiser on my part to incur the charge of incompleteness, than that of incorrectness, in the observations which I do myself the honour of transmitting.

2. I will confine my remarks to three subjects: The comparative revenue and shipping returns of the years 1855 and 1856, and the present state of schools and education.

*Revenue.*

3. You will observe, sir, that a comparison of the revenue of 1855 with that of 1856 shows a falling-off in the latter of these years of not much less than 4,000*l.*, the revenue of 1855 having reached the sum of 29,064*l.*, while that of 1856 did not exceed 25,121*l.* The causes of this decrease may (as I am told) be found in the great importation of goods in the year 1855. A large proportion of these remaining on hand during 1856, the imports, and consequently the ad valorem duties of the latter year, suffered a signal diminution. Add to this, the defalcation of the late Acting Receiver General, Mr. Smith, and the deficiency under consideration will be explained.

4. But although the revenue of 1856 not only fell so far below that of 1855, but was also unequal to the expenditure of the same period, I am happy to say that the beginning of 1857 did not dawn upon a deficient treasury. A surplus from the receipts of 1855, amounting to 3,840*l.*, and the payments of duties for which bonds had been given during the course of that year, combined to assist the current taxation of 1856 so effectually that the beginning of 1857 found us with upwards of 1,300*l.* to our credit.

*Shipping.*

5. I have already said that the import duties of 1856 fell below those of 1855. It will therefore be understood that the tonnage and numbers of the ships which entered in 1856 exhibits a decrease on those of 1855.

## ENTERED.

Years.	Number.	Tons.
1855	332	26,774
1856	297	23,321

6. But although the shipping that entered in 1856 exhibits a decrease, as compared with the previous year, another kind of shipping advanced considerably in the year 1856. I allude to the wrecking vessels, for 175 of which licences were issued in 1855, and in the following year no less than 223. I have already in various despatches entered so fully into this subject that it would be superfluous for me to dilate upon it now. I will only repeat what I have elsewhere stated; viz., that the principal cause of this augmentation in the

## BAHAMAS.

number of wreckers, (after the peculiar attractions of a vocation which is in turns desultory, indolent, and exciting,) is the great development of the trade between the United States on one part, and Cuba, Jamaica, and St Domingo on the other. To this must be added the organization of collusive wrecks, which reflects so much discredit on the treacherous ingenuity of American shipmasters and the passive indifference of American under-writers. Nor can I recognize any remedy that of itself will suffice to correct an evil which is at once damaging to the reputation of the colony and demoralizing to its inhabitants. To effect so desirable an object, many concurrent appliances must be resorted to; the erection of new lighthouses on the Gulf of Florida and the Bahama Bank (such as I believe are designed by Her Majesty's Government); the encouragement of native industry, such as the cultivation of fruit, the manufacture of salt, the pasturage and breeding of cattle in the out islands, with such attention to the preparation of textile materials as may be elicited by metropolitan speculation and encouragement. But each and all of these concurrent remedies will fail to prevent the perversion of a calling, which is originally both necessary and humane, into a sordid and perfidious traffic, without the indispensable assistance of sound education and systematic training.

*Schools and Education.*

7. Considering the population and the resources of these islands, the educational returns set an example of sagacious liberality which might be well imitated in larger and richer dependencies. With not more than 28,000 inhabitants, and with a revenue of not more than 29,000*l.*, the Bahamas Legislature vote 1,400*l.* a year for the education of 2,000 children, in addition to 1,100 others for whom education is supplied by the Church of England. Were the effect more proportionate to the liberality displayed and the costs incurred, it would indeed be a matter for warm congratulation; but to a person recently arrived from Europe there seems some defect in a system of instruction which either does not strongly inculcate on the minds of the pupils the duty of industry, or at any rate does not adapt them to its habitual exercise. I have been surprised to notice the utter want of all preliminary instruction which could dispose the male and female pupils of our schools to the contemplation, or could mould their habits to a life of steady labour, such as falls to the lot of a similar class in England. The paucity and the inefficiency of domestic servants are very remarkable. The paucity of skilled artisans is equally remarkable. Neither does there appear on the part of the youth of either sex a desire to supply the want that is felt, or to learn the arts that have been neglected. Thus a vocation like that of "wrecking," which combines the excitements of danger and of gain with the allurements of desultory idleness and fitful pleasure, presents itself to the minds of the young in colours far more attractive than any form of steady and continuous work; and we may expect to see the same effects last so long as the same causes continue in operation. It will not be until the prizes and attractions of wrecking shall have been diminished by the operation of external changes and domestic checks, and our schools have succeeded in giving industrial tastes as well as industrial skill to the pupils, that the colonial youths will be weaned from their present abnormal calling to the prosecution of those labours and the cultivation of those arts on which alone the prosperity of their country can be securely and permanently established.

8. In making these remarks I do not intend to censure or to depreciate the exertions of the teachers, still less do I presume to condemn the motives or the efforts of the clergy of different denominations, by whose help they have been guided. I bear willing and cordial testimony to the energy, self-denial, and devotion, both of the clergy and the teachers, in the great work of education. They have had a hard battle to fight, and they have fought it well. Climate—want of co-operation—want of sympathy—the habits of the people—past associations—all these things they have had to contend with, and have contended bravely, and it is perhaps, all things considered, unreasonable to expect fruits equal or in any way comparable to those which might reasonably be expected under analogous circumstances in Europe. We who did not witness the real evils of slavery—we who did not know the negro when he was a slave—we who have no vivid recollection of the fearful and wondrous misapprehensions and



illusions with which the sudden act of emancipation dazzled his untutored mind—we who did not see him loathing the compulsory labour of bondage, and hailing freedom as the sure exemption from all future toil—and who are now astounded to see him at this very day regarding the most primitive and indispensable of all toil, when performed for another, almost as a degradation—we make perhaps far too little allowance for the exigencies of social transition, and form a very imperfect notion of the difficulties which would have beset any teacher's path who had twenty years ago tried to indoctrinate his ex-apprentice pupils with a love of manual work; and it is perhaps less fair than ever to complain of the want of industrial teaching among coloured children in the colonies at a moment when the Imperial Legislature is considering the best mode of imparting it to English children at home. Hence we may on reflection be not only led to excuse but to applaud those, who, fearing the deep-rooted prejudices and the hostile traditions of those whom they undertook to teach, forebore to press upon them truisms which would repel their sympathies, and were contented to impart that humble scholarship, which of itself is only a small though essential element of learning, while they deferred to a more distant and convenient season the practical enforcements of those duties the theory of which they were daily communicating to students, whose ear and whose memory were ever more ready to catch words than their reason and reflection were able to weigh them.

9. At the same time, disarding the language of complaint, I would express a hope that ere long the clergy and teachers in our tropical colonies, satisfied that sufficient sacrifice has been made to the power of old prejudices and associations, will recognize the expediency of blending with that imperfect book learning to which the domestic habits of the ex-servile population still in many cases restrict the studies of their children, some admission of the general obligation and some knowledge of the special branches of skilled or unskilled labour. Here, as in almost every part of the West Indies, the great elements of wealth abound. We enjoy a benignant climate, and a grateful though rugged soil. In our out-islands of Abaco, Exuma, and San Salvador, these conditions offer ample encouragement for the cultivation of many kinds of colonial produce. Each of these islands could maintain a population four or five times as numerous as that which now inhabits them, if the people could only be induced to devote their energies to the continuous and systematic prosecution of agricultural, horticultural, or pastoral industry. But their wayward habits, their antipathy to the habitual exercise of hireling labour, and their extortionate price of such occasional labour as they consent for wages to bestow on the land of others, will, I fear, frighten away all European capital and enterprise from this part of the world for ever, unless education and reflection make a timely change in the prejudices and dispositions of the mass of a people who are physically gifted with great strength, and whose worst moral defects are rarely tinged with premeditated brutality or ferocity.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. J. BAYLEY,  
Governor.

*P.S.*—Since this despatch was written, I much regret to hear from the Colonial Secretary that the Duplicate Blue Book is not ready, in consequence of the delay in furnishing the customs returns.

C. J. B.

## No. 9.

No. 9.

COPY of DESPATCH from GOVERNOR DARLING to the Right Honourable  
H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 3.)

King's House, Jamaica, August 10, 1857.

(Received August 31, 1957)

Sir,

No. 35—18 July 1857.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a Despatch from the President of the Turks Island to the Lieutenant Governor of Jamaica, transmitting the Blue Books of that colony for the year 1856.

2. The affairs of this Presidency were so entirely new to me previously to my arrival in Jamaica, and I have as yet had so little opportunity of acquainting myself with them, that I confine myself to transmitting Mr. Inglis's Despatch without any observations of my own.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P., (Signed) C. H. DARLING.  
 &c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 9

Enclosure in No. 9.

(No. 35.)

Government House, Grand Turk.

July 18, 1857.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book of this colony for 1856. On the cause of the delay in its transmission, I shall address your Excellency in a separate Despatch, if possible, by the present mail.

*Revenue and Expenditure. Imports and Exports.*

2. The revenue for 1856 amounted to 5,806*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, falling short of our anticipations by 418*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.*, which is to be accounted for by the fact of two consecutive bad salt seasons.

3. The expenditure for 1856 amounted to 6,124*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*, showing an excess over income of 318*l.* 8*s.*, which was met from an unappropriated balance. The expenditure of 1856 has been less than 1855 by 176*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.*

4. The total value of imports in 1856 amounted to 33,523*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* The total value of exports amounted to 27,064*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.* The duties on imports collected under the tariff of 1849, continued, with slight modification, by the revised tariff of 1855, appear now, after seven years' experience, to have been reduced too largely and too suddenly, taking into consideration the increasing requirements of a new colony, together with the comparatively large debt entailed upon it at the separation from the Bahamas. Had the old Bahama tariff been retained up to the present time, slightly modified to meet the altered conditions of the colony, a large reduction on imports might now have been effected, without detriment to its interests. As financial matters stand at present, it would be desirable to retrace our steps, by raising considerably the present tariff as regards imports, which might even now be done on some articles, with material advantage to the revenue, and without injury to any one, except possibly for a time to the few importers, who have already been great gainers, probably the only persons who have been so by the reduction of the tariff. The reduction on flour and provisions generally has not had the effect of a corresponding reduction in their retail prices, allowing for the increased price at the place of production, nor will such be the case while importations remain monopolised by two or three individuals. The total abolition, or at all events the reduction, of duties to a very low scale, on some of the principal necessities of life, wheat flour, for example, which might have been effected now on that important article of consumption but for the large reduction generally in the tariff of 1849, would probably be the only means of lowering materially its retail price in this colony, by increasing its importation, which in that event would ensue from its being landed here from transient vessels either

for consumption on the spot or for exportation to St. Domingo and other neighbouring colonies, thus keeping up a good supply in the market from the increased quantity which from its perishable nature would probably be thrown into it, in place of, as is the custom at present, keeping a supply barely sufficient for the consumption of the inhabitants, and selling the same at an exorbitant price. Notwithstanding the price demanded for it (2*l*. 14*s*. per barrel for an inferior and unwholesome quality), the average annual consumption of wheat flour amounts to 2,500 barrels annually.

5. Although the deficiency in the salt crop for the last two years has had the effect directly and indirectly of reducing the revenue from imports and exports, it is not likely under the most favourable circumstances to increase to such a degree at present as to enable us to do more than meet the exigencies of our establishment, experience showing the necessity of reserving any surplus remaining after a favorable year to provide for the short comings of future years. Thus the public works of the colony are, under its existing conditions, likely to be retarded, as well as the liquidation of the balance of the public debt by the redemption of the Treasury bonds which were issued for that purpose.

6. The abolition of the tonnage duties in 1849, and the reduction of the export duty on salt in 1852, have, as trammels to trade, been doubtless favourable to our commerce, increasing the number of our customers.

7. The one farthing per bushel, however, still kept up on the export of salt, is found by none to be a grievance, and is of considerable service, both in point of revenue and enabling a correct account to be kept of the quantity of salt made and exported. In 1854, an average season, the farthing export duty covered the expenses of our entire revenue establishment.

8. The revenue from the Crown funds, which is kept separate from that of the Colonial Treasury, is derived principally from the rents of the salt ponds, and amounts to about 3,500*l*. per annum. Although fluctuating little, it has a tendency to increase gradually, while on the falling in of the present salt pond leases in 1866-8 the increase ought to be considerable.

9. The low ebb to which the tariff on imports has been reduced has caused a consequent call for assistance from the Crown funds towards the support of the local Government, these funds having been destined for other purposes.

10. On this subject I transmit, as Sub-enclosure No. 1. in this report, a tabular statement showing the amounts under the different heads expended from the Crown funds in the maintenance of this Government from 1849 to 1856 inclusive, a period of eight years, amounting to 13,447*l*. 8*s*. 7*d*., or about one third of the whole of these funds collected during that period. It is true that this includes the sum of 2,316*l*. 3*s*. 9*d*. in aid of the erection of a lighthouse, which may be considered a legitimate application of that amount, as I believe it was intended that these funds should be used in aid of public works generally, inclusive of public buildings of every description, maintaining the canals, reservoirs, and public roads in proper repair, as well as in preparatory works, such as canals, roads, &c., necessary for the opening up of new salinas. The erection of public buildings of various kinds which are indispensably requisite,—these preparatory works also above mentioned, so necessary to the development of the resources of the colony,—and other public works even more necessary, have been thus retarded to a great extent by the necessity of affording assistance to the revenue.

Sub-Encl. 1 in No. 9.

11. The entire salt crop of 1856 may be set down at 800,000 bushels and upwards; a considerable portion of it, however, not having been shipped until the present year, owing to the unusual lateness of the period of the year into which the raking of 1856 extended, I cannot at present make a more accurate statement, which, however, will be found to be substantially correct.

12. On these heads I transmit, as Sub-enclosure No. 2., another tabular statement, embracing a period of eight years, commencing from the separation in 1849 up to the close of 1856, both inclusive, showing the value of imports and exports, amount of import and export duties collected, tonnage inwards and outwards, bushels of salt shipped, &c. during that period; and I would especially call the attention of your Excellency to the large amount obtained for exports, of which, during that short space of time, the sum of 221,647*l*. 2*s*. has been

Sub-Encl. 2 in No. 9.

received on the spot, and, with but little trouble or outlay on their parts, by a mere handful of salt pond proprietors.

*Labour and Wages.*

13. The great drawback to the rapid increase of this colony is the deficiency of labour. This is felt, however, only during the busy period of the year; the consequence being that the labourers, being possibly somewhat improvident, live in a comparative state of feast or famine. Labour might, in my opinion, be obtained from those parts of the Caicos where the people subsist principally by the produce of the soil, to which I adverted in my speech at the opening of the legislature in 1855, but without effect. Notwithstanding what might appear a necessary community of interest, there is a want of unanimity for the common weal among the salt pond proprietors, and without some unanimous movement to effect it these predial labourers are not to be induced to come here, even during the salt season. The sudden want of labour which has taken the salt pond proprietors by surprise lately, both here and at Salt Cay, where raking and shipping salt have been going on at the same time, will not I fear be a means of producing any unanimous attempt on their part to increase the labour market. Thus, not only are wages extravagantly high, but large quantities of salt are likely to remain unworked.

14. At Cockburn Harbour, East Caicos, (or East Harbour as it is commonly called,) Mr. St. George Tucker, a gentleman long and extensively engaged in salt operations there, has made great efforts to foster a resident population, by holding out sufficient inducements to this class of predial labourers at the Caicos, not only to visit the place periodically when labour is most required, but to become permanent settlers, and has in both objects been so far successful that I hear no complaints of paucity of labour at East Harbour. The settlement there is improving rapidly under Mr. Tucker's enlightened superintendence, having with a total resident population of 279 persons, composed of 127 adult males, 62 females, and 89 children, produced last season about one third of the whole salt crop of the colony.

15. This colony is greatly indebted to Mr. Tucker for his exertions at East Caicos, where, by long continued and steady perseverance against a host of difficulties, he has succeeded in establishing so important an addition to the salt pond cultivation of these islands. He complains, and probably with some justice, that little or nothing has been done by the local Government for East Harbour; and I think it would be well that an annual amount be contributed from the Crown funds, for a term of years, towards the public works of that small but thriving settlement, which seems likely to become a source of material assistance to the revenue of the colony.

16. Mr. Tucker was appointed in 1852 assistant police magistrate at East Caicos, acting also to a certain extent as an assistant stipendiary justice, and in that capacity visiting the different and widely spread districts of the Caicos. His salary (100*l.* per annum), which is all he receives for a considerable amount of magisterial duty, could only procure a man of Mr. Tucker's standing and abilities from the fact of his being engaged near the scene of his official duties in salt operations, which, however, it may be well to state have not turned out to his personal advantage, having from the want of adequate capital been obliged to transfer his interest in the East Caicos Pond to Mr. N. T. Butterfield of Bermuda, whose active and intelligent manager he has been for some years past, carrying on his salt works in a manner much in advance of that of the salt rakers here generally, by the judicious application of mechanical contrivances, whereby a saving in manual labour is effected, as well as by a liberal policy very distinct from the conservative ideas of the other large salt pond proprietors throughout the colony.

17. The original drawback to the rapid development of East Harbour has been a want of sufficient capital, salt cultivation on a large scale, although highly profitable, forming no exception to other large commercial speculations, which must fail unless sustained by the necessary capital.

18. This is not likely to be the case with the grant lately made to Mr. James Winter of a portion of the pond at West Caicos, where I am assured an outlay of 10,000*l.* is contemplated before any return is expected. Should these works be thus carried out, it must be the means of effecting a material change in the fortunes of these islands, leading to increase of population and wealth.

19. On this subject I submit, as Sub-enclosure No. 3, in this report, a return from the inspector of Government schools, embracing the years 1854, 5, 6, showing the average number of scholars in daily attendance, and the numbers on the registers of the seven public schools of the colony, together with the amount of fees collected during these three years ending 31st December 1856, the fees amounting to a "check" (or 1½*d.* per week for each scholar), being the lowest coin in circulation in this colony. This enclosure also contains a table showing the per-centage of scholars in daily attendance at each school on the numbers registered during the same period.

20. By these returns it will be seen that, although the number of scholars had slightly decreased since the previous year, the rate per cent. in attendance had increased, with the exception of the school at Lorimer's Caicos, which has, however, since the close of 1856, considerably increased, both in numbers and attendance, there being at present 120 scholars registered on the books of that school, with 56 per cent. in daily attendance. The falling off in this school had been owing to a change of masters; but the original master, Mr. Simmons, having been again appointed at the commencement of the present year, the school has been brought into a better condition, and now exceeds what it was formerly, not only in the numbers registered, but, what is of more importance, in the per-centage in daily attendance on the numbers registered.

21. Sub-enclosure No. 4, which contains a statement of the receipts and expenditure in the public educational department of these islands for the year ending 31st December 1856, shows an amount of 663*l.* 5*s.* 10½*d.* defrayed on the maintenance of our system of public education here during the year 1856, and the different items on which that sum has been expended.

Sub-Encl. 4 is No. 5.

22. On the subject of public education here generally, I beg to quote a paragraph from the reply of the Legislative Council to my speech at the opening of the legislative session on the 21st May last, to the following effect: "The returns of the inspector of Government schools, and other information on that subject to which your honour has directed our attention, afford a gratifying proof that the liberal provision which has been made by the legislature for the promotion of popular instruction is being productive of material benefit to the youth of this colony, and that the educational supervision exercised over that important branch of our public institutions has been faithfully performed, and as such is properly appreciated."

I have, &c.

W. R. INGLIS, President.

Sub-Enclosure 1 in No. 9

STATEMENT of the amounts contributed from the Crown Funds towards the maintenance of the Government of the Turks and Caicos Islands, commencing from the separation from the Bahamas in January 1849 to the close of 1856, inclusive, a period of eight years.

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Expenses connected with a Government house, including rental, repairs, furniture, and the purchase of a lot, &c.	1768	6	7
Towards military expenses, inclusive of rent of barracks, repairs to ditto, and militia expenses	1036	18	6
In aid of the erection of a lighthouse on Grand Turk and maintenance of same	3136	18	5
Expenses of poor's house and hospital, inclusive of the purchase of a lot and incidental parochial expenses	2372	13	2
In aid of the special justice's department	2620	18	2
In aid of the Government schools	797	7	11
Remuneration to clerks in the president's office during the years 1849, 1850, 51, 52, 53, and 54	442	13	0
In aid of repairs of public buildings, including jails, parish church at Grand Turk, and chapel of ease at Salt Cay	439	12	5
In aid of the hire of a mail boat in 1853, and for the conveyance of Government despatches	207	3	5
In aid of certain sanitary measures	513	15	0
	13,446	8	7

## TURKS ISLANDS.

Sub-Enclosure 2 in No. 9.

TABULAR STATEMENT showing the Value of the Imports and Exports, Tonnage "Inwards" and "Outwards," Quantity of Salt exported, and the Amount, Revenue, and Expenditure of the Turks and Caicos Islands since the separation from the Bahamas in January 1849 to the close of 1856 inclusive,—a period of eight years.

Year.	Value of Imports.			Value of Exports.			Tonnage.		Batches of Salt Exported.	Receipts of Revenue.				Expenditure.																						
	Imports re-exported.			Sub.			Total.			Inwards.	Outwards.	Import Duties.	Export Duties.	Other Sources.	Total.	Salaries, &c.	Account, Public Debt.	Total.																		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.											d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.								
1849	24,654	10	0	5,149	14	7	54,845	9	11	38,203	17	2	41,712		1,407,238	4,728	3	0	1,780	13	10	1,908	5	4	8,441	3	2	5,410	11	0	7,207	10	2			
1850	21,989	3	7	4,174	2	11	26,757	18	7	30,332	1	6	41,273		1,102,402	2,948	11	11	2,436	5	1	316	11	3	5,923	5	3	4,236	11	21	2,281	7	11	6,819	19	14
1851	25,124	11	2	2,353	6	7	37,845	10	0	19,398	12	7	31,946	30,646	799,422	3,569	5	9	1,639	7	7	791	4	10	5,925	16	24	3,317	4	3	779	4	31	2,095	8	91
1852	29,467	14	2	2,780	17	3	22,685	4	1	24,626	1	4	40,106	38,930	1,061,276	3,808	17	7	2,212	0	0	625	15	7	6,212	13	10	3,250	6	41	896	3	1	6,152	9	51
1853	32,473	13	10	6,408	12	7	24,132	19	0	30,559	11	7	33,532	31,294	927,698	3,847	5	9	862	3	0	1,138	2	0	5,597	13	9	5,240	11	21	934	12	2	6,473	2	94
1854	34,363	7	8	3,642	3	7	31,275	16	3	54,817	19	10	59,354	56,376	1,091,300	4,397	7	5	1,064	9	7	1,341	2	4	6,808	13	4	5,404	12	104	91	16	4	5,428	15	21
1855	32,226	15	6	5,017	16	11	22,244	10	6	28,262	7	7	20,914	19,434	791,384	4,131	17	5	407	19	0	1,205	1	4	5,874	13	9	6,269	2	91	91	16	4	6,301	5	12
1856	30,123	7	6	4,174	2	7	22,890	0	6	27,064	3	1	28,006	26,603	674,240	3,892	5	1	763	1	5	1,211	1	2	5,406	7	6	6,039	17	9	91	16	4	6,124	15	2
Totals	247,400	14	11	33,837	17	0	231,647	3	0	235,474	19	0	275,779	267,474	7,241,554	31,310	12	11	11,105	4	0	2,045	3	11	51,431	0	101	43,073	10	01	7,529	13	11	50,679	6	112
Add Amounts raised on Debentures during the years 1850, 1852, and 1853, remitted to Nassau on account of Public Debt																	£	1,836	2	0								1,836	6	8	1,836	6	8			
Totals																	£	35,299	7	61	43,073	10	01	9,437	0	71	52,510	12	71	52,510	12	71				

## Sub-Enclosure 3 in No. 9.

A RETURN of the Average Number of Scholars in daily Attendance at and on the Register of each of the Public Schools, together with the Amount of Fees collected in each School during the Three Years ended 31st December 1856.

PLACE.	SCHOOL.	Number in attendance at each School.			Number on each School Register.			Amount, Fees received.		
		1854.	1855.	1856.	1854.	1855.	1856.	1854.	1855.	1856.
								£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Grand Turk	Boys	54	68	52	74	64	73	17 12 7½	22 8 2	16 16 4½
	Girls	36	22	21	45	41	32	6 18 1½	2 10 10½	3 17 7½
	Infants	63	78	55	104	129	22	10 4 1	28 0 1	12 3 9
Salt Cay	Boys*	37	24	32	58	55	45	1 11 10½	1 18 24	7 3 7½
	Girls and Infants	37	45	40	74	70	77	0 10 2	5 18 5½	5 6 5
Lorimers, Caicos	Mixed	32	36	37	82	92	100	—	0 8 2	0 7 6
Kew, Caicos	Mixed	—	28	30	—	40	32	—	—	—
	Totals	253	303	271	445	512	442	32 16 5½	70 0 5½	55 18 2½

\* The averages for this school are taken on the first six months of 1855 and the last nine months of 1856, it being closed during the intervening period.

(Signed) THOS. HOCKENDEN, Inspector, &c.

A TABLE showing the Per-centage of Scholars in daily Attendance at each Place on the Numbers registered for the Three Years ended 31st December 1856.

PLACE.	Daily Attendance.			On Registers.			Rate per Cent. in attendance.			Rate per Cent. of Absentees.		
	1854.	1855.	1856.	1854.	1855.	1856.	1854.	1855.	1856.	1854.	1855.	1856.
Grand Turk, Turks Islands	143	172	132	223	255	197	63	67	67	37	33	33
Salt Cay, Turks Islands	74	66	72	134	125	120	55	55	60	45	45	40
Lorimers, Caicos	32	36	37	85	92	100	42	39	37	58	61	63
Kew, Caicos	—	28	30	—	40	32	—	70	94	—	30	8
Totals	253	303	271	445	512	442	37	50	60	43	40	40

(Signed) THOS. HOCKENDEN, Inspector, &c., Public Schools.

## Sub-Enclosure 4 in No. 9.

STATEMENT of the Receipts and Expenditure in the Educational Department of the Turks and Caicos Islands for the Year ending 31st December 1856.

## RECEIPTS.

## EXPENDITURE.

1856	£ s. d.	1857	£ s. d.
To Balance in hand from last year -	19 15 1	By Amount, Salaries disbursed, viz. -	£ s. d.
" Amount received from Colonial Treasury -	450 0 0	To Inspector and Head Master -	200 0 0
" Amount received from Her Majesty's Crown funds -	150 0 0	" Assistant Master, Boys School, Grand Turk -	60 12 4
" Amount of fees collected at the several public schools during the year -	55 15 3½	" Mistress of Girls School, Grand Turk -	60 2 4
		" Mistress of Infants Do., Grand Turk -	50 0 0
		" Master of the Boys Do., Salt Cay -	53 2 10
		" Mistress of the Girls and Infants, Salt Cay -	40 0 0
		" Ditto Amount, back salary -	8 2 8
		" Master, Mixed School, Lorimers -	57 6 0
		" Master, Mixed School, at Kew -	10 0 0
			340 3 2
		" Amount paid to Monitors at the several Public Schools during the Year -	—
		" Amount, Rental of Schoolrooms at Grand Turk and of the School-house at Lorimers, Caicos -	—
		" Amount paid for Books, &c. -	27 15 10½
		" " Stationery -	4 18 5½
		" " Furniture, &c. -	4 18 10½
		" " Inspector's travelling expenses -	5 5 2½
		" " Miscellaneous expenses -	2 12 5½
			42 13 10½
		" Balance available for 1857, in the hands of the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer -	—
			12 2 4
	675 11 2½		675 11 2½

Presidency, Turks and Caicos Islands,  
Grand Turk, February 1857.

ALEX. C. LOWE,  
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Board of Education.

TRINIDAD.

## TRINIDAD.

No. 10.

No. 10.

COPY of DESPATCH from GOVERNOR KEATE to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 67.)

Trinidad, August 1, 1857.

(Received August 31, 1857.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to forward to you the Blue Book of the colony of Trinidad for 1856.

As I was not in the island during any portion of the year to which it relates, I do not venture to accompany it with any general report, preferring rather to address you separately as occasion requires on the many subjects of interest on which it affords information. I may state, however, briefly, that the comparative statements of revenue and expenditure contained in it show, in the former, an increase of 20,889*l.* 11*s.* 3½*d.* over that of 1855, and in the latter a decrease of 352*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*; and that the revenue and expenditure of the year stand respectively at 93,213*l.* 0*s.* 8½*d.* and 80,304*l.* 12*s.* 2½*d.*, leaving a balance in favour of revenue of 12,908*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.* This is exclusive of all receipts and expenditure under the head of Immigration, which will find their place for the first time in the Blue Book for the present year.

The returns of the imports and exports for the year also exhibit a considerable improvement over those of the former year.

			£
The value of the imports for	1855 being	-	559,067
"	" 1856	-	664,474
" exports for	1855	-	380,873
"	" 1856	-	574,767

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) ROBERT W. KEATE.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.,  
&c. &c. &c.

## BRITISH GUIANA.

No. 11.

No. 11.

COPY of DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor WALKER to the  
Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 43.)

Government House, Demerara,

November 7, 1857.

(Received December 3, 1857.)

Sir,

It is only now that I find myself enabled to forward the Blue Book for 1856, and after the lapse of so considerable an interval from the close of the period to which it relates; considering also that I was absent from the colony during a great portion of that year, I am very doubtful whether any really useful purpose would be answered by an attempt to furnish the usual commentary, especially as it must inevitably lead to the further detention of the volume itself.

From peculiar circumstances the Governor has, I find, been led in his ordinary correspondence during the past twelve months to dwell at greater length and with more minuteness of detail than is customary upon the prospects and position of this community; and as I contemplate the necessity of having to address you at no distant date upon some important facts connected with the supply of labour, it may be the less inconvenient if I reserve the few observations which I might be able to supply as explanatory of the statistics herewith transmitted.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) W. WALKER.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.,  
&c. &c. &c.



## BARBADOS.

BARBADOS.

No. 12.

No. 12.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor HINCKS to the  
Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 28.)

Windward Islands, Barbados, June 6, 1857.

SIR,

(Received, June 30, 1857.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the Barbados Blue Book for the year 1856, and to submit the Report which it is my duty to make on the principal subjects embraced therein.

*Taxes, Duties, &c.*

2. The only changes in the fiscal system that I have to report are, the repeal of an extra rate of 15 per cent. on the established duties, which was temporarily imposed in 1855 to assist in meeting the expenses incurred during the cholera visitation; and the imposition of a tax of 1s. per gallon on rum consumed within the colony, with an additional countervailing duty of a similar amount on imported rum.

3. The revenue raised by Customs duties during the last year was 36,593*l*. The tariff is of a very complicated character; which is the more surprising as there is no reason to suppose that it was framed with a view to protect the interests of any particular class of the community.

4. An ad valorem rate of 6 per cent. on goods now subject to duty would be amply sufficient to raise the necessary revenue, but the principle adopted in the Barbados tariff is to charge the low rate of 3 per cent. ad valorem on unenumerated articles, in which are included cottons, linens, silks, hardware, china, earthen and glass ware, in fact, all kinds of manufactures, and to impose specific and much heavier duties on leading articles of food, such as flour, meal, salted meat, butter, bread, cheese, lard, &c.

5. The tax recently imposed on the consumption of rum within the colony is a great improvement in the system, and it would in my opinion be expedient to continue it, as well as the present duties on wines and spirits, and equivalent, specific, or ad valorem rates on malt liquors, tobacco, and any other articles of luxury that it might be considered desirable to subject to increased taxation, and to raise the remainder of the revenue by an uniform ad valorem rate on all articles of consumption, except those which on special grounds should be admitted free.

*Revenue and Expenditure.*

6. The revenue of the colony may be stated at 80,000*l*., about 37,000*l*. of which is derived from duties on imports, 12,000*l*. from harbour and carriage dues, 14,000*l*. from a tax upon the consumption of rum, 4,000*l*. from fees and fines, 6,000*l*. from licences, chiefly for retailing liquors, 2,500*l*. from a land tax, 2,500*l*. from the post office, and 2,000*l*. from incidental receipts.

7. Such are the actual sources of the public revenue, but the receipts are occasionally swollen by the proceeds of new loans, and by repayments to the treasury of advances made from it to the parish or other local funds.

8. The ordinary expenditure may be stated at 55,000*l*., under the following heads:—

Civil Establishment (about one half being for that of the Customs), 7,000*l*.

Judicial Establishment (including salaries of magistrates), 7,000*l*.

Ecclesiastical Establishment, 7,000*l*.

Post Office Establishment, 2,800*l*.

Police, 15,000*l*.

Legislative expenses, 1,000*l*.

Maintenance of gaols, 5,000*l*.

Lunatic asylum, hospital, and lazaretto, 2,500*l*.

Aid to the local road funds, 3,000*l*.

Public printing, 600*l*.

Educational grants, 2,000*l*.

Drawbacks and miscellaneous charges, 2,100*l*.

E

## BARBADOS.

9. It will appear, from the statement in the Blue Book, that in the year 1856 the expenditure reached 70,000*l.* This increase was caused by the repayment during that year of 12,000*l.* on account of the loan raised to defray the extraordinary expenses incurred during the prevalence of cholera in 1854, and also by an outlay on works and buildings.

10. The public debt having been reduced to an amount rather less than 8,000*l.*, which the creditors will not consent to receive prior to the maturity of the bonds, and the colony having a considerable surplus revenue, it is probable that some important public works, which have been retarded for want of means, will be constructed without further delay.

11. The works in question, to which I shall have occasion to refer more specifically hereafter, are, 1st, the improvements connected with the Molehead, comprising the repair of the wharves, the removal of rock in the carenage, and the purchase, equipment, and working of a steam dredge. 2nd, the erection of suitable buildings for the accommodation of the Legislature, the courts, and the public departments. 3d, the extension of the prison at Glendairry, and 4th, the repair of the Government House. These works will, in my opinion, absorb a sum of not less than 80,000*l.*, which, however, can be paid without difficulty out of the surplus revenue.

*Local Revenues.*

12. The vestries of the several parishes in the island, eleven in number, are empowered to levy local rates for repairs of churches and parsonage houses, support of the poor, and purposes of education. The funds at the disposal of the vestries consist chiefly of the proceeds of a small land tax, pew rents, and rents of parish land.

13. In the ten outer parishes of the island, the aggregate revenue administered by the vestries may be stated at 5,000*l.*, about 2,200*l.* of which is expended for church expenses of various kinds, 1,200*l.* for education, and 1,300*l.* for the relief of the poor, and 300*l.* is paid as commission to the parish treasurers.

14. The taxes of the parish of St. Michael, which comprises within its limits the city of Bridgetown, are nearly double the aggregate amount of those raised in the other parishes.

15. The management of the roads of the island is intrusted by law to commissioners. The road fund is derived from a tax of 9*d.* per acre on land, 1*d.* in the pound on the rental of houses, and a tax on carriages, horses, and mules. No tolls are levied, but grants are made from the public treasury to each parish, varying in amount with reference to its situation, so as to compensate the inhabitants of those parishes whose roads are much travelled over by non-residents, and which are those nearest to Bridgetown, which is the general shipping port for the colony.

16. The cost of maintaining the roads of the island will probably average 8,000*l.* The grants from the treasury were only 1,450*l.* in each of the years 1855 and 1856, but they will probably be increased this year to at least 3,000*l.*

*Public Debt.*

17. I have already had occasion to notice this subject. To meet the extraordinary expenses incurred during the visitation of cholera in 1854 a loan of about 20,000*l.* was contracted, of which 8,368*l.* was outstanding at the commencement of the present year. It has since been further reduced to 7,708*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*

*Militia.*

18. The Militia Act of the island provides for the enrolment and calling out of the force; but it may almost be considered a dead letter, and I have not deemed it expedient to recommend any further legislation on the subject. The maintenance of an efficient police involves a very considerable annual expenditure, and such a force is all that the circumstances of the colony seem to require.

*Public Works.*

19. I have already, when referring to the expenditure of the colony, had occasion to notice the various public works in progress or in contemplation. The most pressing of these is the repair of the wharves and the deepening of the carenage. The former will, I hope, be prosecuted with vigour after the shipment of the present crop. The navigation of the carenage has been seriously impeded, partly by an accumulation of mud, and partly by a coral rock which has been gradually foroving in the channel.

20. A contract has been entered into with submarine engineers residing in the city of New York for the removal of a sufficient portion of the coral rock, and the work has already been several weeks in progress, and will, I hope, soon be completed.

21. A steam dredge of sufficient power has been ordered from Glasgow for the colony, and may be expected in a few weeks, when dredging operations will be vigorously prosecuted.

22. When I arrived in the colony at the beginning of 1856, I found the building appropriated for the residence of the Governor in very bad order, a circumstance which was duly reported by my predecessor. The building is under the charge of a Committee of the House of Assembly, which recommended that no time should be lost in putting it into an efficient state of repair. An appropriation for the purpose was accordingly made, and the work was commenced in September last, and is likely to be completed next November.

23. To carry out the original plan of the prison at Glendairy, it will be necessary to expend a considerable sum of money. The most pressing work is the erection of a prison for female convicts with separate cells.

24. Although I scarcely think it probable that the public buildings to which I have already adverted will be speedily commenced, yet, as plans and estimates have been invited, I ought not to omit to notice them among the projected works. I estimate their cost at something like 40,000*l*.

*Legislation.*

25. The legislation of 1856 was not important, about twenty acts were passed, but they were rather of a local than a general character, and do not appear to call for any special notice.

*Political Franchise.*

26. The small number of electors registered under the existing law is a subject of popular complaint. An association has been recently formed with the avowed object of promoting reform, by extending the elective franchise, and has made more than one appeal to the public.

27. The House of Assembly consists of twenty-four members, two from each of the eleven parishes, and two from the city of Bridgetown. The number of registered electors is about 1,850, but several of these are said to be dead, absent, or registered in more than one place, and as the parish of St. Michael and city of Bridgetown contain a much larger proportion of electors than the outer parishes, the constituencies of the latter, embracing ten electoral districts, do not, I should suppose, exceed 700 electors, or an average of seventy each.

28. It is said that the constituencies of St. Michael and Bridgetown are not unfavourable to the proposed extension of the franchise; but, on the other hand, I am inclined to think that the members for the outer parishes, and probably their constituents, are opposed to any change.

29. The qualification for electors in this colony is unusually high. The freehold qualification is 12*l*. 1*s*. 6*d*. sterling; leasehold 64*l*. 2*s*., the original lease not having been for a less term than five years. The occupancy qualification in the city is a rental of 32*l*. per annum.

30. The great value of property in this island, and the difficulty of obtaining it, are, in my opinion, a sufficient protection to the proprietors. Under any scheme of qualification that would be proposed, even by those entertaining the most extreme views, the number of electors would be small, while there is no cause to apprehend that the landed proprietors would have less than their legitimate influence.

31. I think that it would be very desirable that industrious men who have succeeded in acquiring freehold property should be intrusted with the elective franchise. It would have a tendency to interest them in maintaining and in improving the institutions of their native country.

32. The total number of landed proprietors in the island is under 5,000. It is this class that is chiefly interested in the extension of the franchise. It is not probable that any change in the leasehold qualification in the rural districts that would be agreed upon, would materially increase the number of electors of that class.

33. On the other hand, by lowering the freehold qualification, there might be a considerable increase to the number of electors, unattended with any kind of risk. In the parish of Christchurch there are 770 landed proprietors and only 145 registered electors. In St. Joseph, 294 proprietors and forty-nine electors. In St. Andrew, 306 proprietors and thirty-eight electors. In St. John, 250 proprietors and twenty-seven electors. In St. Philip, 653 proprietors and ninety-five electors. In St. George, 432 proprietors and thirty-four electors. In St. James, 457 proprietors and sixty-two electors. In St. Lucy, 557 proprietors and 175 electors. In St. Thomas, 310 proprietors and sixty-seven electors. In St. Michael, 430 proprietors and 182 electors. In St. Peter's, 233 proprietors and 117 electors.

34. It is to be observed, that the proportion of electors to proprietors differs widely in the several parishes. This may be accounted for in St. Michael's by the high value of land; but I should not suppose that the small proprietors in that parish or in St. Peter's were superior, as a class, to those in other parishes, and certainly no evil has resulted from their possessing the elective franchise.

35. With regard to the city I am of opinion, that it would be wise to extend the franchise, and more especially as it might be done without causing any political change.

36. In considering the state of the franchise I ought not to omit to notice, that the advocates for reform complain that the qualification for representatives in the Assembly is too high.

37. It is truly alleged, that formerly every one qualified as a voter was likewise eligible for a seat in the Assembly, and that by the Act of 1840, under which persons of colour were first admitted to a participation in the franchise, a high qualification was imposed. It is demanded by the reform party that the law should be placed on its old footing.

38. While individually I am not inclined to advocate a property qualification for representatives, I am nevertheless of opinion that the question should be decided on its merits, and not with reference to the state of the colonial law prior to 1840.

39. I should be very glad indeed if the qualification for representatives were reduced, but I am not of opinion that the present one can fairly be considered in the light of a grievance. On the contrary, it is more liberal than qualifications usually are, as any one enjoying an income from any profession, office, or trade of not less than 200*l.* per annum is eligible to a seat in the Barbados Assembly, though unpossessed of property of any kind.

40. In thus stating to you explicitly the opinions which I have formed, as to the state of the political franchise in this colony, on which it is my duty to report, I most remind you that I have no reason to suppose that they are in accordance with those of the proprietary body generally, or of the majority of either branch of the Legislature.

#### *Population.*

41. As no census has been taken since 1851, I have not any new information to communicate under this head. The population of the island is very dense, and there can be little doubt that the cultivation of the estates might be fully carried on with a much smaller number of labourers.

42. Emigration is advocated by some, but there is little probability that legislative aid would be given for such a purpose, and there is no restriction whatever on voluntary emigration, while there is a pressing demand for labourers in the adjacent colonies, which can be reached without much trouble or expense.

43. The truth is that a feeling of attachment to their native land pervades the population of all classes and races. And this is not surprising considering the many advantages it possesses. An impression, too, seems to prevail that those who have emigrated to the adjoining colonies are dissatisfied with their change.

#### *Ecclesiastical Establishment.*

44. There are eleven parishes in the island, the rectors of which are paid from the colonial treasury a salary of 320*l.* per annum, in addition to which they have each a glebe, and in some instances a commuted allowance in lieu of fees, which cannot now be legally exacted.

45. The curates receive 150*l.* per annum from the colonial treasury, and a few enjoy an additional allowance of from 50*l.* to 100*l.* from funds at the disposal of the bishop.

46. There are twenty-two ministers and curates in the island, in addition to eleven rectors; and there are eleven churches and twenty chapels, in which public worship is maintained at the expense of the colony wholly or partially.

47. The Bishop and his clergy generally are eminently distinguished for their piety and zeal, and are increasing in their efforts to extend religious instruction, and to foster the many valuable charities in connexion with the Church of England.

48. There is no regular assistance given by the Legislature to any religious denomination but the Church of England. The Wesleyan Methodists, and United Brethren or Moravians, have established missions in the island, and the ministers of those bodies are most zealous in imparting religious instruction, and in promoting education.

49. There is, indeed, unusually little religious discord in this island. Although the Bishop and the majority of the clergy of the Church of England decline to countenance any movement which is not under the immediate direction of their own church, a respectable minority of the clergy and laity are fully sensible of the value of the services of the Moravian and Wesleyan missionaries, and willingly contribute to the support of the missions, and especially to their schools.

#### *Education.*

50. In this colony the education of the children is to a very great extent under the immediate supervision of the clergy. It is much to be deplored that so inadequate a provision has been made for the support of the schools, and that the influential members of the community seem to be so little impressed with the belief that one of their most important duties has been inadequately performed.

51. The grants in aid of education for the year 1856 were, from the public treasury 1,434*l.* 5*s.*, from the parish of St. Michael 1,290*l.*, and from the other ten parishes 1,200*l.*, or in the aggregate less than 4,000*l.* for all the schools in this densely populated island.

52. I should lament still more than I do the insufficiency of the present provision for the maintenance of schools, were it not that I have no confidence in any satisfactory result from a larger expenditure of money until a proper system shall have been established.

53. Obviously the first step to be taken is to provide competent teachers. This involves the maintenance of an efficient training school, in which the pupil teachers should receive aid from the colonial treasury. The subject has been for many months under the consideration of a legislative committee whose labours I earnestly hope will be brought to an early and satisfactory conclusion.

#### *Imports and Exports.*

54. This important branch of inquiry has been of late invested with additional interest, owing to the efforts which have been made to divert the trade of the West India colonies into different channels from those into which the common interests of the producers and consumers have hitherto caused it to flow.

## BARBADOS.

55. Although such efforts have been greatly checked by the prompt and judicious action of Her Majesty's Government, yet I think it not undesirable to prove by well authenticated facts, that the advocates of such a policy were in error, as I am well aware that in some quarters complaints have been made of the interference of the Imperial Government with the course of what has been incorrectly termed local legislation.

56. It is my purpose therefore to give a general view of the trade of this colony, to point out the leading articles of production and consumption, to state the markets in which the former are sold, and the causes which lead to the preference given to those markets, and to indicate the sources from which the various articles of domestic consumption are supplied.

57. I intend likewise to institute such a comparison between the commercial operations of the past and those of the preceding years as the insufficient trade returns for the latter will admit of.

58. The Blue Book returns state the value of the exports from Barbados in 1856 at 970,000*l.*, and the imports at 840,000*l.* This statement however requires explanation. Being rendered by its windward position a convenient dépôt, Barbados carries on a considerable traffic in British manufactures and American provisions with the other British West India Islands and British Guiana, and to a less extent with the French, Spanish, Dutch, Swedish, and Danish colonies.

59. This trade may be estimated at about 200,000*l.*, so that the value of the imports consumed in the island in 1856 did not exceed 640,000*l.*, while the exports of domestic products, valued according to the Blue Book returns, may be stated at 770,000*l.* I shall have occasion to point out elsewhere that the exports for 1856 have been considerably undervalued, and that the planters realized from the sugar crop about 130,000*l.* more than the estimate. The exports, therefore, were really worth 900,000*l.* sterling, which is more than 40 per cent. above the stated value of the imports for consumption.

60. Of this 900,000*l.* the sugar exported may be valued at 790,000*l.*, the molasses at 75,000*l.*, and the rum at 15,000*l.* The remaining 20,000*l.* is the value of several articles, such as old metals, hides, aloes, arrowroot, tamarinds, turtle-shell, pickles, and succades, each unworthy of consideration as an article of export.

61. The produce of the island is shipped chiefly to the English and Irish markets. Of 43,666 hhds. of sugar exported in 1856, England received 24,569, Ireland 15,986, being 40,555 for the United Kingdom, the United States 2,855, and British America 256.

62. As the imports from the United States are nearly equal in value to those from the United Kingdom, it has been made a subject of complaint that the former country, instead of receiving in exchange the staple products of the colony, requires payment in money. The argument is, that the money paid for American imports is capital abstracted from the British colonies for the encouragement of the slave trade, as it is employed by the Americans in the purchase of sugars at Cuba and Porto Rico. It may be proper to observe here, that the erroneous views which I deem it my duty to notice, are contained in the Parliamentary Paper entitled "Customs Duties (Canada and the West Indies), ordered by the House of Commons to be printed 29th July 1856."

63. A very brief explanation will be sufficient to establish the fact, that the Americans have been compelled to take payment of their supplies in money, and to purchase their sugars in Cuba and Porto Rico, because it has not been obtainable in Barbados.

64. The sugar producers of this island may be divided into three classes; 1st, the non-resident proprietors whose estates are unencumbered, and who have the sole control of their produce; 2nd, the resident and non-resident proprietors whose estates are mortgaged, and whose produce is shipped through the agents of the mortgagees; and 3rd, the resident proprietors whose estates are free, and whose produce is entirely at their own disposal.

65. The sugar of the first-mentioned class has not hitherto been offered for sale in the island; it has been consigned to the agents of the proprietors in England, and it is at least doubtful whether it can be diverted into other channels. This class of producers most assuredly could not with justice join in the complaint that the Americans have not been purchasers of their sugars.

66. The second class cannot be said to have much choice as to the disposal of their produce. It is regularly delivered to the representatives of the mortgagees, and exported by them to their principals in the United Kingdom, generally in the vessels of the latter.

67. The last, and, I believe, the smallest class, is that of the resident proprietors who have the entire control of their produce; but even among them there is frequently an unwillingness to sell in the Barbados market, especially when there seems any probability of prices rising.

68. So far, then, from the Americans being indisposed to take Barbados produce in exchange for their provisions, the truth is that they purchase as much of the former as they can get, whereas the English seldom buy a cask in the colony. The exports to the United States, on the contrary, have been sold for cash in the home market, not a single proprietor, so far as I can ascertain, being willing to consign his produce to that country for sale.

69. I may observe that, so long as there were protective duties in favour of British West India produce, it was obviously the interest of the producers to sell their sugars in the English market. That branch of the trade with the United States is therefore a new one; it was wholly insignificant prior to 1855. In that year the value of the exports of sugar to the United States was 8,865*l*. In 1856 it had increased to 46,090*l*.; and this year the sugars already bought on American account are worth not less than 40,000*l*. It is manifest, therefore, that there is no unwillingness on the part of the Americans to exchange products with this colony; and after a slight reference to the shipping employed in the trade, it will appear further that they, as well as the producers of sugar, have suffered materially from the inability of the former to purchase sugar in Barbados during the continuance of the protective system.

70. In 1855, 127 vessels of 24,813 tons burthen were entered from the United States; but only 35 of 6,871 tons burthen were cleared for that country. In 1856, 181 vessels of 35,129 tons burthen were entered, all with cargoes, while but 61 of 12,901 tons burthen were cleared, 20 of which, of 5,679 tons burthen, were in ballast.

71. Another important fact with reference to the trade of the island deserves notice. The molasses made on the estates is considered as offal, and is, as a general rule, under the control of the managers or attorneys of the estates by whom it is sold, the proceeds being applied to meet the ordinary disbursements of the estates.

72. While, however, the sugar, owing to the causes which I have assigned, has been exported to England, a large portion of the molasses has been purchased on American account. I have stated the value of the molasses shipped in 1856 at 75,000*l*., of which 40,000*l*. went to the United States and British America, and 35,000*l*. to Great Britain and Ireland.

73. Having, I trust, satisfactorily explained the causes which have influenced the shipment of the products of this colony to the English markets, having shewn that the proprietors of estates have no ground whatever for the complaint made on their behalf, that the Americans refuse to purchase those products, and that they carry the cash received for their supplies to other markets supplied by slave labour, I shall proceed to describe the goods imported into the colony, and the sources of supply.

74. I have already stated that the value of the imports for consumption in the colony in 1856 was about 640,000*l*. Of this rather more than one half consisted of articles of food, including groceries, wines, and liquors, as well as the food of animals. The other portion was composed of various manufactured articles, lumber, including hoops, staves, shooks, &c., guano and other manures, horses, and mules.

75. Of the articles classed as manufactures, the import of which, in 1856, was about 200,000*l*., the great bulk was received from the United Kingdom, the United States supplying 17,000*l*. worth; the only articles exceeding in value 1,000*l*. being tallow candles, 10,000*l*., and matches, 2,500*l*.

76. The imports of manufactures from Ireland were under 20,000*l*.; chiefly soap, tallow candles, linens, and cottons, though the principal portion of the latter was supplied by England, as well as the manufactures generally, which chiefly consisted, besides the articles above mentioned, of hardware, china, earthen and glass ware, leather of all kinds, cordage, copper, coals, carriages, machinery, and fancy goods of all kinds.

## BARBADOS.

77. The guano, the value of which retained for consumption was 50,000*l.*, was imported from England and Calloo. The value of the wood goods of all kinds was, in the aggregate, 45,000*l.*:—viz., lumber, 12,000*l.*; staves, 19,000*l.*; shingles, 9,000*l.*; hoops, 5,000*l.*; and shooks, 1,000*l.* The hardwood was supplied by the West India colonies, the other lumber by the United States and British America in nearly equal proportions, staves and shingles almost entirely by the United States. Shooks are not much used in Barbados, but are supplied by the United States. Hoops are imported principally from the United Kingdom. The horses and mules imported last year, which were of the value of 6,000*l.*, were brought from the United States. The principal articles classed as food were supplied by the United States, the exceptions being rice, dried and pickled fish, cattle (which are chiefly supplied by Porto Rico), groceries, wines, and liquors.

78. In considering this question with reference to the proposed scheme of reciprocal free trade, it may be desirable to point out that Canada would have been wholly unable to supply any of the articles classed as manufactures—wines and liquors, tobacco, cattle, mules, guano, groceries, salt, rice, and fish—the aggregate value of which amounted to 360,000*l.* The other chief articles of import were flour, corn meal, bread, salted meat, butter, cheese, lard, corn and grain, and lumber. It will appear from the trade returns in the Parliamentary Paper to which I have referred that Canada has recently imported from the United States salted meat, cheese, and lard under heavy duties.

79. Canada has no pretensions to compete with the United States in the supply of corn meal. Flour is the article that, in the opinion of many, could be advantageously supplied by that colony, and indeed it is the one which has been principally referred to during the discussions on the subject. It is important, therefore, to mention that northern flour is not in favour in this market. Our supplies of that article are obtained chiefly from Baltimore, owing, I presume, to the southern flour standing the climate better.

80. In the articles of butter and corn and grain, as well as salted meat and lard, Ireland competes advantageously with the United States. The reciprocal free trade measures would, therefore, have had a tendency to force a trade in these articles from the United States through Canada, into which colony they are now admitted duty-free, under the Reciprocity Treaty, to the injury of Ireland.

81. It might be expected that Canada would compete to some extent for the trade in wood. The whole value of the articles classed under this head was about 45,000*l.*, and of this an amount of 5,000*l.* was imported from the United Kingdom. It must be obvious that the cause of there being no trade between this island and Canada is, that wood is the only article which there is reason to suppose could be advantageously supplied by the latter, and that it would not answer to load vessels exclusively with that commodity, especially when they would have to return in ballast. Canadian wood, moreover, being admitted into the United States free of duty, may and probably does reach this colony through that country.

82. Had the expedient been adopted of removing altogether the duties now levied in this colony on articles of food, as was at one time proposed, it must be obvious that no change would have taken place in the course of trade. In such a case our supplies would be drawn, as they are at present, from those who can furnish them at the lowest rate.

83. My conviction is, that the admission of West India sugars to the Canadian market free of duty would not only be highly injurious to the Canadian consumers, who would have to supply from other sources the amount of any deficiency in the sugar duty, but it would be equally so to the Barbados planters. At present the trade of this island is carried on by merchants of the highest standing, who have an immense capital embarked in it, and who have their arrangements made to advance all that is required for the cultivation of the estates, and the manufacture of the crop, during the long period which elapses between the planting of the cane and the realization of the value of the manufactured article.

84. English merchants would not be likely to supply capital for a trade with Canada, and it may be doubted whether there are capitalists in Canada, or in the United States, disposed to take their places. I trust, therefore, that on giving to the subject more consideration than it received in some of the



West India colonies when suddenly presented to them, it will appear that the policy of the empire is in strict accordance with the interests both of the producing and consuming classes in Canada and the West Indies.

85. I should have considered it desirable to institute a comparison between the imports and exports of 1856 and those of former years, but I have no materials for doing so satisfactorily. There was a large importation in 1852, which was a year of great prosperity, but no detail is given in the returns of that from the United Kingdom, and the exports to the West India colonies are classed under one head. In referring therefore to those articles imported in 1852, of which I find details, I must quote the aggregate import without allowing for the exportation. For 1855 and 1856 I shall give the quantities retained for consumption in Barbados.

86. Referring then to leading articles of food, I find the consumption of rice in 1856 to have been 26,000*l.*; in 1855, 11,600*l.*; in 1852, the total importation, 16,400*l.* The value of flour consumed in 1856 was 49,000*l.*; in 1855, 29,000*l.*; and the total import in 1852, 38,000*l.* Corn meal, in 1856, 41,000*l.*; in 1855, 30,000*l.*; in 1852, total import, 31,000*l.* Bread, in 1856, 21,000*l.*; in 1855, 12,000*l.*; in 1852, 10,000*l.* Fish, in 1856, 33,000*l.*; in 1855, 26,600*l.*; in 1852, total import, 43,000*l.* I may observe that the exportation of this article from the bonded warehouse in Barbados is considerable, the import in 1856 having been 64,000*l.*, of which 31,000*l.* was exported, leaving 33,000 for consumption.

87. The salted meat consumed in 1856 was 26,000*l.*; in 1855, 15,000*l.*; in 1852, 12,000*l.* The importation of wood has been less fluctuating. It was 45,000*l.* in 1856, 42,000*l.* in 1855, and 42,000*l.* in 1852. The consumption of guano was 50,000*l.* in 1856, 22,000*l.* in 1855, and 26,000*l.* in 1852.

88. The immense increase in the consumption of the leading articles of food of the masses of the people would indicate a greater degree of prosperity, but I am not aware that there has been any advance in the rate of wages. I can hardly doubt, however, that the labouring population are more fully employed at present than they were formerly. It is also worthy of consideration that the year preceding the one which is the subject of my Report was that which immediately followed the cholera visitation, by which one eighth of the population of the island was carried off.

89. I cannot institute a comparison between the exports of 1856 and those of former years, without observing that it is of great importance that those charged with the compilation of the trade returns should exercise a vigilant supervision over the values assigned to the leading articles of export. It is vain to expect anything like perfect accuracy, but as regards the imports into this colony the temptation to commit fraud, either by undervaluation or by evasion of the entire duty, is so slight that I have no reason to doubt the general correctness of this branch of the returns. But as nine tenths of the exports consist of one article, which is valued at the discretion of the officers of Customs, every exertion should be used by them to obtain reliable information as to the state of the markets.

90. On examining the values assigned to the leading article of export from this colony during the last few years, I find a very slight variation in them; indeed the Blue Book returns would induce the belief that the sugar crop of 1854 was of about the same value as that of 1852, and much greater than that of 1856.

91. I have taken considerable pains to obtain information from the best sources, and the result of my inquiries is, that the sugar crop of 1852, which I have selected as a year of unusual prosperity, was worth about 810,000*l.*, that of 1854, 625,000*l.*, while that of 1856 I have already estimated at 790,000*l.* The crop of 1855 did not realize more than 560,000*l.* But as the exports of molasses and rum were worth fully 40,000*l.* more in 1856 than in 1852, the value of the total exports from the colony must have been greater in 1856 than in any of the preceding years.

#### *Shipping.*

92. The returns of this important branch of the trade of the colony shew that during the year 1856 there were entered at Bridgetown 966 vessels of

**BARBADOS.**

114,408 tons, and with crews numbering 7,194, while 987 vessels of 114,669 tons burthen, and crews numbering 7,247, were cleared from the same port.

93. Of the vessels which were entered inwards, 82 of 11,796 tons burthen, and of those which were cleared outwards, 167 of 26,810 tons burthen, were in ballast.

94. Of the 966 vessels which were entered inwards, 109 of 31,511 tons were from the United Kingdom, 181 of 35,129 tons from the United States, 92 of 12,687 tons from British North America, 478 of 20,755 tons from the British West Indies, 81 of 4,701 tons from the foreign colonies, Venezuela and St. Domingo, and 25 of 9,925 tons were from other ports.

95. Of the 967 vessels which were cleared outwards, 121 of 34,408 tons burthen were for the United Kingdom, 61 of 12,901 tons for the United States, 47 of 6,935 tons for British North America, 568 of 39,603 tons for the British West Indies, and 170 of 20,822 tons for foreign colonies, Venezuela and St. Domingo.

96. Of the vessels which were entered inwards, 774 of 78,186 tons burthen were British, and 192 of 36,222 tons were foreign. Of those which were cleared outwards, 782 of 81,764 tons were British, and 185 of 32,905 tons were foreign.

97. It may be further observed with reference to this branch of trade, that of the 109 ships which were entered from the United Kingdom 5 were foreign and 11 in ballast, while of 121 which were cleared outwards one was foreign and none in ballast. The 181 vessels entered from the United States, 28 of which were British, brought cargoes, but only 61 were cleared for that country, and 20 of those were in ballast, viz., 4 British and 16 foreign. Of the 92 vessels entered from British America, 3 only were foreign and all brought cargoes. Of 47 vessels cleared for British America, 16 were in ballast. 478 vessels, 7 of which were foreign and 17 in ballast, were entered from the British West Indies. 568 were cleared for those colonies, 58 of which were foreign and 35 in ballast. 81 vessels were entered from the foreign colonies and 25 from other ports in Europe, the East Indies, or South America, of which 19 were foreign and 22 in ballast. 170 vessels were cleared for the foreign West India colonies and Venezuela, 76 of which were foreign and 96 in ballast.

98. It appears from the foregoing statement that the trade with the United Kingdom is on a most satisfactory footing as regards shipping, being carried on almost exclusively in British bottoms, and the vessels having cargoes on both voyages. The imports from the United States were brought chiefly in foreign and those from British North America in British bottoms, but there were not return cargoes to any considerable extent, and the vessels, both British and Foreign, were either cleared in ballast for their own ports or sent to the foreign West India Islands to seek for freight. Some few were taken up in Barbados for the intercolonial trade.

*Agriculture.*

99. Although it has not been in the power of the compiler of the Blue Book to furnish from official sources any agricultural statistics, I am gratified in being able to report that much attention is paid by the resident proprietors and managers to the cultivation of the soil.

100. There is a general agricultural society in the island, incorporated by an Act of the Legislature, and which supports an interesting monthly periodical. Besides this, there are branch societies in the several parishes which hold frequent meetings, at which much valuable information is communicated. The best evidence that can be offered as to the improvement in the system of cultivation, is the increase which has taken place of late years in the staple products of the colony.

101. It is a subject of general remark that the Barbados estates are cultivated like gardens. Weeds are hardly to be seen, the plough is in very general use, and the system of wide planting is almost universally adopted.

*Gaols and Prisons.*

102. Under the head of Public Works I have had occasion to notice the contemplated extension of the buildings at Glendairy Prison, which has been constructed with the view of enforcing a judicious system of prison discipline.

103. The number of prisoners usually in confinement may be stated at about 400. Of these, 72 males are kept in separate cells at Glendairy, and it is the practice to select for that prison convicts of the worst class, and of course with the longest sentences. Prisoners awaiting trial, debtors, seldom exceeding 20 in number, and male convicts for whom room cannot be found at Glendairy, are confined in the common gaol at Bridgetown.

104. Male prisoners summarily convicted by the police magistrates are confined in a rural prison, in the parish of St. Philip, which will hold 40 very conveniently, and in which there are few separate cells for confining those guilty of breaches of prison discipline.

105. There are two prisons for females, one in the northern part of the island, in the parish of St. Peter, the other at the police station near the city. The prisoners are classified in these prisons as far as the accommodation will admit.

106. There is also a juvenile asylum for boys within a few miles of Bridgetown, where there are facilities for employing the children in agricultural labour. I regret, however, to be compelled to report, that this prison is wholly inadequate as a reformatory. The boys are generally the victims of neglect, but the sentences are so short that they are thrown again on the world before it is possible that they can have derived any material benefit from the instruction which the institution ought to place within their reach.

107. I have spared no efforts to inculcate the necessity of adopting efficient measures for the reformation of juvenile offenders, and I am sanguine that the present Legislature will be able to concur in a measure that will meet the necessities of the case.

#### *Charitable Institutions.*

108. In this colony the charitable institutions are chiefly supported by legislative aid, and I am of opinion that on the whole this is the best mode of securing their efficiency and good management. The institutions of most importance are the general hospital, the lunatic asylum, and lazaretto, but the vestries of the parishes find it both convenient and economical to administer relief through the agency of charitable societies, many of which exist in the island.

#### *Concluding Remarks.*

109. In an island so densely populated as Barbados, in which the population is certainly pressing on the subsistence fund in a much greater degree than could be wished, it is not to be expected that the peasantry can enjoy the prosperity which is to be met with in that class in some of the adjoining islands, where land is of little value and labour in great demand.

110. But whatever may be the superior advantages enjoyed by the labouring classes in the neighbouring colonies, they have not been deemed sufficient to induce the Barbadians to abandon their native land in any considerable number, and it is satisfactory to think that so simple and cheap a remedy for over-population is always within reach. Several adjoining colonies which could be reached within a few hours, would gladly pay all the expenses attendant on the introduction of immigrants, if the labour market of this colony should be overstocked. I do not therefore entertain the apprehensions on this head which have been occasionally stated by a portion of the island press.

111. Whatever doubts may be entertained as to the condition of the labouring classes, there can be none as to the prosperity of the landed proprietors, but especially those of them who are free from debt.

112. The immense profit on the production and manufacture of sugar, which is yielded by the prices now current, has led to great speculation in land. More than one instance has come under my notice in which estates have been resold, after having been held for a short period, at an advance of 5,000*l.* to 6,000*l.*

113. In most countries the increased profit derived from the cultivation of the staple product would be shared between the landowner and the labourer; but so abundant is the supply of labour in this colony that wages have not advanced, while land readily commands such a price as to startle the timid members of society.

## BARBADOS.

114. It may not be uninteresting to those who have long been in the habit of believing that these colonies have materially retrograded since the time of slavery, that I should notice one important change in the social condition of the inhabitants of Barbados. I have been assured that forty years ago the roads were so bad that carriages could scarcely be used. Families then came to town on horseback, and there were only five or six carriages in the island.

115. There are now about 800 pleasure carriages, and more than 400 vehicles of burthen in the island, and the cab licences in Bridgetown for the present year will exceed 70 in number.

116. It would, I have little doubt, be easy to adduce other evidence to support the assertion that this colony was never in a more prosperous condition during any former period of its history.

117. It is much to be deplored that so large a number of the proprietors of the island are permanent absentees. Constant daily labour for hire must be the lot of the masses; but there are duties, and most important ones, devolving on the wealthy landowners of such a colony.

118. The dwellings of the labourers are such as to retard civilization, in fact, to render its progress almost hopeless. The education of the children is insufficiently attended to, and no adequate means are adopted to train up the rising generation in better habits.

119. It may be urged that the responsibility for such shortcomings as I have adverted to ought properly to rest upon the members of the Colonial Legislature, and certainly I should be unwilling to relieve them from their full share of it; but I am so sensible of the benefits derived by the people from the residence of enlightened and truly benevolent gentlemen,—and such I believe many of the resident proprietors to be,—that I cannot withhold the expression of my regret that their example is not more generally followed.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) F. HINCKS.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.,  
&c.      &c.      &c.

## GRENADA.

## GRENADA.

No. 13.

No. 13.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor HINCKS to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 24.)

Windward Islands, Barbados, June 22, 1857.

SIR,

(Received July 17, 1857.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the Grenada Blue Book for the year 1856, together with a copy of the accompanying Report, from Lieut.-Governor Kortright.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) F. HINCKS.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.,  
&c.      &c.      &c.

Encl. in No. 13.

Enclosure in No. 13.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor KORTRIGHT to  
Governor HINCKS.

(No. 33.)

SIR,

Government Office, Grenada, June 1, 1857.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book for the year 1856, together with my Report thereon.

2. As your Excellency is aware, I assumed the Government of the Island on the 31st January of the present year; my Report will consequently be wanting in much information which personal observation alone would have

enabled me to furnish, and will be little more than a condensed analysis of the Returns contained in the Blue Book.

3. At the close of 1855, the arrears of revenue amounted to 439*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.*, and the sum due by the treasury, principally on account of public officers' salaries, schools, and some few unpaid votes of the Legislature, was 3,902*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.*, leaving the net sum of 3,463*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.* to be raised in 1856, over and above the amount required to meet the actual expenditure of the Colony for the year.

4. The Legislature proposed to effect this by imposing an additional tax of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. on all unenumerated articles in the Import Tariff, already liable to an *ad valorem* duty of 5 per cent.; and all trades, professions, and callings were also taxed. Public officers' salaries were to be subject to an impost of 5 per cent. The Bill was, however, disallowed by Her Majesty's Government, and a new Money Bill was passed in October.

5. The fixed revenue of the Colony amounted in 1855 to 9,849*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*, and in 1856 to 10,837*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.*, showing an increase during the latter year of 988*l.* 0*s.* 7*d.* This amount does not include the balance at the end of the previous year, and which has been improperly inserted in the Blue Book as a part of the fixed revenue raised in 1856.

6. The Incidental Receipts also exceeded those of 1855 by 1,459*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.* This large increase is to be accounted for principally by the appropriation on the part of the Legislature, for the general uses of the Colony, of 800*l.* from the Harbour Fund, up to that time exclusively at the disposal of the Harbour Commissioners.

7. The total fixed and incidental revenues, therefore, in 1856, amounting to 15,651*l.* 0*s.* 11*d.*, were in excess of those of 1855 by 1,647*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.*

8. The expenditure in 1856, viz., 15,453*l.* 19*s.*, was less than the expenditure of the previous year by 470*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* The comparative yearly statement of the colonial expenditure (page 35 of the Blue Book) shows that under some heads larger amounts were expended in 1856 than in 1855, but that under the majority a decrease has taken place. For instance, under the heads "Civil" and "Military" appear respectively the sums of 618*l.* 5*s.* 9*d.* and 131*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.* increased expenditure in 1856. In that year provision had to be made to pay the salaries of the Surveyor of Public Works and the division officers charged with the general superintendence of the public roads for the whole year; these officers having been first created during the year 1855 a smaller amount was required for the salaries to the end of that year.

9. The Act appointing the division officers will expire at the end of the present year, and it will then be for the consideration of the Legislature whether it shall be renewed. I believe that a more efficient system of supervision may be introduced by authorizing the road surveyor to hire overseers at a daily rate of wages, when necessary, and whenever practicable to enter into contracts for the work on the roads.

10. The expenses incurred under the head "Military" were consequent on the establishment of the Militia, which did not exist the previous year.

11. Besides the fixed revenue and incidental expenses above referred to, the local revenues raised for special purposes amount in the aggregate to a considerable sum.

12. In the town of St. George 3 per cent., and in St. Patrick's and Grenville 2 per cent, on the assessed rental of houses, appropriated by the Street Commissioners as a street fund, yielded a sum of 359*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.*

13. The road tax, besides 18,056 days of statute labour, produced in 1856 993*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.*

14. One third of the duty levied on rum consumed in the colony, or 4*d.* per gallon, is set apart for immigration purposes. 1,165*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.* was raised from this source during the past year.

15. In order to provide for the maintenance of a supply of water in St. George's, it has become necessary to replace all the old water pipes by new ones, the former having become so defective as to be utterly unserviceable. The sum raised by the tax of two per cent. on the assessed rental of houses, provided it amounts to 10*l.*, and 2*s.* when the assessed rental is under 10*l.*, and 3*d.* per ton on vessels clearing from St. George's, and 2*d.* on vessels clearing from other ports in the island has not exceeded 176*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.* A loan, therefore, of 1,000*l.*, bearing interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, the principal to be repaid in four equal instalments, the first at the expiration of the

## GRENADA.

second year after the loan, and the others at the end of each of the following three years, has been contracted to enable the Water Commissioners to provide for the expenses of the work.

16. The Colony Hospital, under the management of a governor and board of directors, is partly supported by an annual grant of the Legislature, which, in 1856, was 500*l.*, and by the rents of lands belonging to the corporation. Collections in aid of the funds are occasionally made at the several places of worship. At the commencement of the year the institution was in debt to the amount of 312*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.* After deducting from its income the 500*l.* granted by the Legislature, which was a part of the fixed revenue of the colony, the sum collected was 212*l.* 1*s.* 4½*d.*

17. The total amount of local revenues collected in 1856 was 3,073*l.* 18*s.* 11½*d.*

18. This statement shows that the total sum raised from direct and indirect taxes, and from incidental receipts from various sources for the support of the several public departments and institutions of the colony for the past year was not less than 19,324*l.* 19*s.* 10½*d.*

19. In comparing the estimated value of the imports in 1855 and 1856, there appears to be a decrease in the latter year amounting to 6,966*l.* 18*s.* 2*d.* This deficiency is perceptible in imports from all countries with the exception of the United States, from which the value of the imports have exceeded those of 1855 by 7,029*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.*

20. The great bulk of the imports is for consumption on the estates, the use of imported articles by the lower orders being very limited. The great falling off under this head can only be accounted for by the planters having had to resort to the strictest economy, and to reduce their importations proportionably to the smallness of the crops and the low price of produce during the last few years. As the prospects of the planters brighten, I have no doubt that the imports will materially increase.

21. I regret to say that the education of the lower orders has made very little progress in Grenada. The money granted yearly by the Legislature in aid of schools reduced from 1,000*l.* to 500*l.* in 1856, has not been of that benefit to the cause of education that might have been expected under a more judicious system. Without wishing to detract from the zeal and usefulness of the clergy of all denominations who have had the superintendence of the schools, I do not think, unless there can be established a more constant and a stricter supervision of them, and an uniform system of education is introduced throughout the schools of the colony, that any improvement is likely to take place. The want of properly trained teachers is no doubt in a great measure the cause of the inefficiency of the schools, and although the teachers at present employed are generally persons of intelligence, it struck me forcibly on my visit to the several schools that a great portion of them were wanting in that very necessary faculty of being able to impart knowledge to others. It is to be lamented that the effort to educate the lower orders should be regarded by many persons here with a certain degree of jealousy and coldness, as likely to impair their usefulness as labourers; they cannot or will not believe that the more general education becomes, the less likely is it to have the effect they anticipate. They judge from the fact of the few who have acquired a little knowledge, having thereby raised themselves above the level of their more ignorant companions.

22. The only important public works that have been completed during the course of the year are bridges over some of the streams. The expense of these has generally been defrayed from the road fund of the parish in which they are situated. The only exception is in the case of the bridge across the mouth of the St. John's river in the vicinity of the town of St. George. The funds were provided by the sale of some surplus colonial stores appropriated to that purpose by resolution of the Legislature with the consent of the Executive. The cost was small in consequence of the woodwork having been principally framed from the materials of a former bridge which had been built at a great outlay, and which from want of a competent person to superintend the erection of it, had been so unskillfully constructed that it was swept away by the river shortly after it had been built.

23. I am happy to say that the cultivation of cocoa is gradually increasing. The negro population, finding that it is likely to be remunerative at a less expenditure of physical labour than the cultivation of sugar, are now beginning

very generally to turn their attention to it. The state of one of the largest cocoa plantations in the Island "Plaisance," the property of Mr. Ross, lately Attorney General of Grenada, reflects great credit on that gentleman; he attributes his success principally to the fact of his having made himself independent of the Creole labourers by locating a few Portuguese families on his property, whom he found to be always willing to work for him. I cannot help, however, recording my opinion, that to his personal supervision and management, more than to any other cause, he is indebted to the yearly increasing value of his property.

24. The prospects of the planters appear to have brightened very much lately, owing to the very fine crops and the rise in the price of sugar. The great difficulty they appear to have to struggle against at present is the want of continuous labour. They are urgent in their demands for immigrants, and I believe that the prosperity of the islands depends in a great measure on the supply of labour. The introduction of strangers might stimulate the native born negroes to exert themselves and to work more steadily than at present. I believe that two or three thousand coolies or Africans would find immediate employment here.

25. Of the natural capabilities and resources of Grenada, so much has at various times been said, that I shall merely endorse the opinion frequently expressed, that much might be done to increase the prosperity of the island, and to better the condition of individuals, if more energy and enterprise could be infused into the people. To recommendations on the subject of setting on foot any scheme likely to be productive of good, and offering a fair prospect of proving remunerative, but requiring a small amount of enterprise, the usual answer is "want of capital." I think with more regard to the real state of the case it should be "want of energy." It is true that persons generally have the greater portion of their funds employed in carrying on their several occupations, but even where the amount required is insignificant it is difficult to induce them to turn out of the beaten track they have pursued for years, and to try anything bearing the impress of novelty.

26. On my arrival here I was astonished to see seven or eight American whaling vessels anchored close to the mouth of the harbour, pursuing their calling by means of their boats within sight of the town. The idea naturally struck me that if, with all the expenses attending the fitting out of vessels and the provisioning and maintaining large crews, the whale fishery of Grenada could prove remunerative to strangers, how much more so might it be to us, having every facility for boiling the fish on shore and requiring only a few boats and implements to enable us to establish a lucrative business. I broached the subject to several persons of influence and recommended the formation of a whaling company, and offered to support the undertaking in every way in my power. The idea was readily adopted, calculations were made by which it appeared that 1,000*l.* would be sufficient to purchase the implements, &c., necessary to a commencement of operations on a small scale. Before any further steps could be taken a reaction took place and the scheme was abandoned.

27. The reports of the American whalers were very favourable, and they could not but be astonished that we should allow such a source of wealth lying at our very doors to be monopolised by strangers without an effort on our part to appropriate some portion of it.

28. In conclusion I have to beg that your Excellency will excuse this very imperfect Report, but I am anxious to transmit the Blue Book to you without further delay.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. H. KORTRIGHT.

His Excellency Governor Hincks,  
&c. &c. — &c.

TOBAGO.

No. 14.

## TOBAGO.

No. 14.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor HINCKS to the Right Hon  
H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 27.)

Windward Islands, Barbadoes, July 24, 1857.

Sir,

(Received August 18, 1857.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the copy of a despatch from  
Lient.-Governor Drysdale, forwarding the Tobago Blue Book for the year  
1856.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.,  
&c.                      &c.                      &c.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) F. HINCKS.

Encl. in No. 14.

Enclosure in No. 14.

(No. 33.)

Sir,

Government House, Tobago, July 1, 1857.

MY recent arrival to assume the Government of this Island, and my  
desire not to retard the transmission of the Blue Book for the last year, pre-  
cludes me from reporting so fully as I should otherwise have desired to do on  
the state of this Island.

2. In forwarding the Blue Book for 1856, it is satisfactory to find from the  
revenue returns, that a marked improvement has taken place, and that the  
Colonial Finances are beginning to assume a more healthy aspect.

3. The debt due to the Imperial Government is being reduced by the  
punctual payment of the periodical instalments, and the Local Treasury bills  
issued in March 1856 to sustain the public credit are being gradually redeemed  
and cancelled.

4. The labourers are reported to be well behaved and industrious, and owing  
to the extent to which Metairie cultivation is carried on in this Island, they  
participate largely in the benefits derived from the present remunerative prices  
of colonial produce.

I beg to annex the usual abstract of the annual Blue Book.

His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief,  
&c.                      &c.                      &c.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) J. V. DRYSDALE,  
Lient. Governor.



ABSTRACT RETURNS from Blue Book for 1854, 1855, and 1856.

## Revenue.

Year.	Customs Duties.			Assessed and other Taxes.	Total.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Import.	Export.	Tonnage.				
1854	3,729	—	273	4,014	8,014	—	2,836
1855	3,509	—	312	4,760	8,581	567	—
1856	5,600	66	414	4,463	10,545	1,964	—

## Expenditure, Colonial.

Year.	Civil Government.	Judicial.	Technical.	Education.	Other Expenditure.	Total.	Increase.	Decrease.
1854	£ 2,529	£ 607	£ 722	£ 357	£ 1,803	£ 8,014	—	£ 2,759
1855	2,042	650	522	84	4,049	7,747	—	267
1856	1,583	1,170	1,446	503	7,860	12,571	4,824	—

## Expenditure, Local and Parochial.

Nil.

## Expenditure, Great Britain.

Year.	Civil.	Military.	Total.	Remarks.
1854	£ 2,990	£ —	£ 2,990	The troops were withdrawn from the island 16th January 1854.
1855	2,340	Nil.	2,340	
1856	2,340	—	2,340	

This Expenditure includes the Salaries of the Lieut.-Governor, the Stipendiary Magistrates, and Deputy Postmaster-General.

## Population.

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Remarks.
1854	7,430	7,775	15,205	The population according to the last census in June 1851 was 14,578.
1855	7,430	7,775	15,205	
1856	7,456	7,937	15,393*	

\* White population about 140 souls.

## Land.

Year.	Area in Square Miles.	Average under Cultivation.	Remarks.
1854	97 square miles, or 62,080 acres.	Estimated at 7,600	The quantity of provision ground cannot be ascertained.
1855		2,580 acres in cane.	
1856		Estimated at 2,700 in cane.	

*Coins and Currency.*

Year.	Specie in Circulation.	Notes in Circulation.	Remarks.
1854 1855 1856	The Amount is unknown.	Notes of the Colonial Bank, Amount unknown, not more than 200 <i>l.</i> or 300 <i>l.</i>	There is no bank in Tobago.

*Churches.*

Year.	Church of England.	Other Denominations.	No. of Sittings.	Average Attendance.	Centesimal Proportion to the Population.	Remarks.
1854	7	9	7,350	6,335	41'6	7 Wesleyan and 3 Moravian Chapels.
1855	7	9	7,350	6,335	41'6	
1856	7	10	7,600	6,392	41'5	

*Schools.*

Year.	Church of England.	Other Denominations.	Total No. of Scholars.	Centesimal Proportion to the Population.	Remarks.
1854	443	1,485	1,928	12'6	—
1855	377	1,514	1,891	12'4	
1856	344	1,291	1,535	9'97	

*Imports.**Exports.*

VALUE IN STERLING.				VALUE IN STERLING.				
Year.	From Great Britain.	From British Colonies.	From Foreign Countries.	Total.	To Great Britain.	To British Colonies.	To Foreign Countries.	Total.
1854	£ 16,751	£ 33,002	£ 2,554	£ 52,307	£ 49,642	£ 112	—	£ 49,754
1855	10,373	25,195	1,792	37,360	44,794	2,593	—	47,387
1856	20,992	38,392	610	59,994	70,226	9,553	10	79,789

*Shipping.*

INWARDS.				OUTWARDS.				
Year.	From Great Britain.	From British Colonies.	From Foreign Countries.	Total.	To Great Britain.	To British Colonies.	To Foreign Countries.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1854	2,913	2,490	424	5,827	2,913	2,490	424	5,827
1855	3,007	1,775	40	4,822	2,640	2,183	48	4,871
1856	3,814	3,069	210	7,093	3,678	2,753	210	6,641

ALBERT J. ALLON,  
Colonial Secretary.

## ST. VINCENT.

ST. VINCENT.

No. 15.

No. 15.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor HINCKS to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 34.)

Windward Islands, Barbadoes, March 17, 1857.

SIR,

(Received April 18, 1857.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the Blue Book for St. Vincent for the year 1856, together with the Report accompanying it from Lieut.-Governor Eyre.

I have, &amp;c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.,  
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) F. HINCKS.

Enclosure in No. 15.

Encl. in No. 15.

REPORT from Lieut.-Governor EYRE to Governor HINCKS.

(No. 45.)

SIR,

Government House, St. Vincent, March 9, 1857.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency in duplicate the Blue Book for St. Vincent for the year 1856, accompanied by the usual abstract returns, also in duplicate.

2. In reporting upon the contents of the present volume, it is a matter of great gratification to me to be able to state, that although the returns for 1856 do not disclose any very marked advance upon those of 1855, the foundation has been laid for a great and progressive improvement which will tell most favourably in coming years. The debt of the Colony has been amply provided for; its revenue is fully equal to its legitimate necessary expenditure; and cultivation has been so largely extended during the last 18 months that the staple productions of the country during the current year will exceed by at least one fourth the amount of produce raised during the past year. But I proceed to notice such points as appear most important or interesting under their respective headings.

Three Enclosures.  
Blue Book, 1856.  
Abstract Returns,  
Nos. 1. and 2.  
Return from  
Treasurer of Assets  
of the Colonial  
Treasury up to  
March 7, 1857.

*Revenue.*

The amount raised in the Colony (14,172*l.* 3*s.* 8½*d.*) is less than that of 1855 (14,458*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.*) by 286*l.* 8*s.* 2½*d.*, and less than the average revenue of the six years preceding 1855 (15,885*l.* 1*s.* 3½*d.*) by 1,712*l.* 17*s.* 7*d.* This decrease arises chiefly from there having been no export or income taxes levied for 1856.

In addition to the revenue raised for the service of the year, a sum of 4,316*l.* 10*s.* was borrowed on the last day of 1856, to pay off the arrears of public debts outstanding since 1854, but as this was only to be applied after the commencement of 1857; and its repayment is especially provided for under Acts which come into effect during this year, the item does not properly appertain to the accounts of 1856.

*Expenditure.*

The gross expenditure, including that paid by Great Britain (17,036*l.* 17*s.* 4½*d.*), is less than that of 1855 (17,312*l.* 3*s.* 0½*d.*) by 275*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.*, and less than the average expenditure of the six years preceding 1855 (19,106*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.*) by 2,069*l.* 9*s.* 6½*d.*

This diminution is due chiefly to some reductions, and to a less expenditure having been incurred for schools and roads, whilst the large debt which had accumulated previous to 1855, and which on the 1st January of that year amounted to no less than 7,192*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.*, was being gradually paid off.

ST. VINCENT.

*Public Debt.*

		£	s.	d.
On January 1, 1855, the public debt amounted to	-	7,192	8	3
On January 1, 1856,                   "                   "	-	5,921	12	8
Showing that during 1855 there had been paid off	-	1,210	15	7
On January 1, 1856, the public debt amounted to	-	5,921	12	8
On January 1, 1857,                   "                   "	-	3,809	10	7½
Showing that during 1856 there had been paid off	-	2,112	2	0½

These sums too were paid off during the respective years out of funds usually and properly constituting part of the revenue applicable to the ordinary current expenditure; but to meet the remaining debt of 3,809*l.* 10*s.* 7½*d.* owing on the 1st January of the current year, and to procure a small additional sum for expenditure in repairs of churches, schools, &c., the amount of 4,316*l.* 10*s.*, already referred to under the head of Revenue, has now been borrowed (on the last day of 1856), and special provision has been made for repaying this loan and interest with ease and certainty in about two years and a half, without in any way trenching upon or interfering with the ordinary current revenue.

The total public debt of the Colony, therefore, now consists of the loan of 4,316*l.* 10*s.*, which, with interest up to the 30th June 1857, when the first instalment becomes due, will amount to 4,450*l.* But there is already in the treasury, after paying all salaries and accounts due to the end of February 1857, a surplus balance of 1,617*l.* 11*s.* 7*d.*, independently of the unexpended balance of the loan itself, which amounts to 439*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.* additional; so that after paying all liabilities up to the end of February the total assets remaining in the treasury amount to 2,057*l.* 5*s.* 9*d.*

This information is given in the Treasurer's return, herewith forwarded.

I have myself, therefore, no doubt whatever but that the provision made for paying off the loan will easily and fully do so within two years and a half from the commencement of 1857.

This is a most satisfactory state of things, and especially so when it is considered that the ordinary revenue to be raised to meet the current expenditure, and the special revenue to be raised to liquidate the debt, are not together estimated to amount to more than 15,320*l.* per annum; a sum less by 565*l.* 1*s.* 3¼*d.* than the average revenue raised during the six years preceding 1855 (15,885*l.* 1*s.* 3¼*d.*), when there was no special debt being paid off, but, on the contrary, when the very large debt of 7,192*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.*, already referred to, was being accumulated, in addition to the expenditure of the entire annual income. I trust that to have attained this very satisfactory result in the short space of two years and a quarter, and so soon after the depression caused by the cholera, and by the long-continued low prices of West Indian produce, will be gratifying to your Excellency and to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and will be considered both as indicating a really sound and healthy state of the Colony at present, and as holding out a cheering and promising prospect for the future.

*Legislation.*

Twenty-four Acts were passed during the year; amongst which one of the most important was that modifying the constitution, by substituting in the place of the Privy Council (composed wholly of Members of the Legislative Council) an Executive Council, comprising an equal number of members from the Legislative Council and from the House of Assembly.

This Act is defective in some respects, and especially because by an unwise limitation of the prerogative serious difficulties may occur in the working of it.

\* See Tabular Return forwarded in Despatch No. 18, January 22, 1857, printed at page 53.

So great, however, is the jealousy with which any change which is thought an innovation is regarded, that the Executive was obliged to accept the Act in its present shape.

With all its imperfections, however, I believe the new machinery will be found a most useful and important improvement upon the former state of things, and that it will gradually pave the way for a more satisfactory and perfect enactment.

The other principal Acts consist of a series hinging one upon the other, and having in view the payment of the public debt by loan, the making provision for the repayment of this loan by special taxation, and the arranging a prospective reduction of the expenditure as certain offices fall vacant. All these objects have been most satisfactorily attained.

Another very important Act is one "to make provision for carrying into execution in the Island of St. Vincent, and its dependencies 'the West India Encumbered Estates Act, 1854,'" and as the Home Government have, with the greatest promptness and liberality, recently appointed, on account of St. Vincent alone, a commissioner in England, with a salary of 500*l.* per annum, for the purpose of facilitating the carrying out the provisions of this Act, strong hopes may reasonably be entertained that many of the difficulties arising from overburdened estates and absentee proprietorship may gradually be removed, and a fresh stimulus be given to an increased cultivation and a more careful management of estates for the future.

Altogether, the session of 1856 must be regarded as having been a most fruitful, useful, and important one.

#### *Political Franchise.*

The present Blue Book gives the returns for a general election in January 1856, by contrasting which with similar returns for the previous election in January 1853 the progress made in understanding and exercising their political privileges by the freeholders will be readily seen.

	Members returned.	Voters registered.	Voters polled.
At general election 1856 -	19	636	211
At general election 1853 -	19	293	130

Showing that in three years the number of voters registered had become more than doubled, and that the number who actually took a part in the elections had increased by two thirds.

After all, however, it is a sad mockery of representative institutions that 211 individuals (subject to all the influences which may be brought to bear upon such a limited number) should return the whole nineteen members to the House of Assembly, and whose acts when there, whether for good or evil, are binding upon the whole community, numbering upwards of 30,000.

Having, however, on many former occasions, fully and strongly stated the convictions I entertain, after a practical acquaintance with the working of the system, of the utter unsuitability of the existing constitutions to the present state and wants of the smaller West Indian Islands, I abstain from any further comment now.

#### *Education.*

Owing to the financial difficulties of the colony, but little provision has been made from colonial funds for education during the last two years.

The following shows the number of scholars returned as attending schools during the last five years:

Year.	Total number of scholars attending all schools.	Contributions* from colonial funds.
1856 -	1,960	£ 150
1855 -	1,553	150
1854 -	1,700	955
1853 -	1,977	955
1852 -	2,115	925
	G 3	

**ST. VINCENT.**

It thus appears that even previous to the reduction of the aid granted from the colonial revenue the number of scholars attending all schools of all denominations had fallen off at the rate of about 200 annually, and it is therefore the more gratifying to find that during 1856, although this aid was not augmented, an increase of 400 took place in the number of children attending the schools in that year, over that of the previous year.

This increase is chiefly amongst schools in connection with the Church of England, but it also comprehends the establishment of Roman Catholic schools, numbering 158 scholars.

Now that the financial embarrassments of the colony are at an end, the legislature will again be able to return to the amount of aid formerly granted for education, and it is to be hoped that a point upon which the future welfare of the colony so vitally depends will meet with a prompt and liberal consideration.

I have, myself, upon every practicable occasion, urged upon the legislature, in the strongest manner I could, the paramount duty of making early and adequate provision for education.

Already a small sum has been granted for the repairs of the Wesleyan schoolhouse, and a larger sum has been voted for the repairs of churches. These are, I trust, but an indication of what the legislature will do during the current year, when the question of the general expenditure for the year comes before it, and the subject of education must necessarily obtain its special consideration.

*Imports and Exports.*

The total amount of imports in 1856 (126,104*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.*) shows an increase upon 1855 (112,193*l.*) of 13,611*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.*, but is less than that of 1854 (145,772*l.*) by 19,667*l.* 8*s.* 1*d.*

Some of the principal items in which an increased importation has taken place in 1856 are beef and pork, bread and biscuit, coals, dried fish, flour, manures, machinery, staves and chucks, &c.; in fact such articles as from an extended cultivation, and an improvement in the means of the planter, there was most likely to be an increased demand for.

The total amount of exports in 1856 (123,422*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*) shows an increase upon 1855 (101,912*l.*) of 21,510*l.*

This increase is chiefly due to an increase in the value of sugar and to a larger growth of arrowroot. The actual quantity of sugar grown in 1856 exceeds that of 1855 by about 129,562 lbs., whilst the production of arrowroot has increased to fully one half more than it was last year. Molasses and rum have fallen somewhat short compared with the quantities made in 1855.

Owing to the length of time which it takes to prepare for, plant, and reap a crop of sugar, the extension which has taken place in the sugar cultivation during the last two years will not begin to tell in the returns until the present year 1857. For this year it is estimated that the crop of sugar will exceed that of 1856 by fully one-fourth, and in 1858 the increase will be still greater. Arrowroot planting is also being rapidly extended, and it only requires a renewal of immigration, and a continuance of the present remunerating prices of West Indian produce, to restore St. Vincent to its pristine prosperity.

The capabilities of the island are immense; its soil fertile; its seasons favourable; its climate probably the most healthy of all our tropical possessions; and the extent of waste land, which, if the present prosperity continue, may be profitably put under cultivation, for sugar or arrowroot, is still very large.

*Sanatory State.*

The usual good sanatory state of the island has prevailed during the past year, and there has been neither epidemic nor serious illness of any kind.

*Crime.*

The comparison of cases brought before the Court of Grand Sessions shows the following result:

		Committed.	Convicted.
1855	-	36	21
1856	-	14	8

Of these eight convictions, only one was for a very serious offence, that of murder, and even here the evidence did not clearly substantiate an intention to kill.

With regard to general commitments by the magistrates there were :

In 1855, 166 persons in gaol under sentences from magistrates ;

In 1856, 187 persons in gaol under sentences from magistrates ;

an increase having taken place in the number of cases of assault and of petty larceny.

On the whole, the state of Crime in the colony must be considered as favourable rather than otherwise.

Having now sufficiently touched upon the various details comprehended in the Blue Book returns, it remains for me to bring under the notice of Her Majesty's Government one point of great importance to the future well-being and prosperity of this Colony, namely, the necessity of renewed immigration.

The decimation of the population by cholera in 1854, and the increased demand for labour since, in consequence of extended cultivation, have combined to render the existing supply of labourers insufficient ; and I would respectfully suggest, that Her Majesty's Government should by every proper means give the strongest encouragement in their power to a renewal of immigration, as one of the chief means of developing more fully the ample though latent resources of this fine and fertile Colony.

I have, &c.

His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief,  
Barbados.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

## 1856.—COLONY OF ST. VINCENT.

## No. 1.

RETURNS, in a Tabular Form, for the last Year in which they can be made, of the Gross Revenues under their different Heads, exhibiting the Cost of Collection and any Deductions made in their Progress to the Public Treasury.

## GROSS REVENUE.

CUSTOMS.	Tonnage Dues.	Taxes and Licences.	Fines and Forfeitures.	Fees of Office.	Lighthouse Dues.	Land and Canal and Public Territorial Works.	Immigrants' Tax.	Interest.	Miscellaneous Receipts.	Gross Amount of Revenue.	Cost of Collection.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
8,300 1 3	1,304 8 6	3,571 5 9	741 4 4½	—	—	—	—	—	255 3 10 4,316 10 0*	19,488 13 8½	1,200 19 3† Collected by Police Magistrates and Gardes.
									4,571 13 10		

\* Loan from Colonial Bank.

† The above is the Amount of Salaries for 1856, of Officers collecting Revenue including Treasurer's Salary.

## No. 2.

RETURNS, in a Tabular Form, for the last Year in which they can be made, of the Disbursements under their different Heads, showing the Authority under which such Disbursements were made.

## EXPENDITURE.

Civil Establishment.	Judicial Establishment.	Ecclesiastical Establishment.	Education.	Police.	Game.	Roads.	Expenses of the Legislature.	Hospitals.	Revenue Department and Draybacks.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	Authority.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
587 2 4,371 19 12	5 2,029 16 11	137 10 0	48 16 5	1,860 18 1½	866 14 3	275 0 0	486 19 4	—	1,577 15 7	Grant to Agricultural Society - 50 0 0 Board of Health Accounts - 690 15 0½ Public Accounts - 1,435 6 0½ Repairs of Public Buildings and Stationery - 80 7 0½ Printing and Stationery - 269 19 8 Cannals - 134 15 4½ Treasury Notes - 43 8 4	14,266 17 4½	Physically by Acts of Legislature.  By Vote of Legislature.  Physically by Vote of Legislature. By Act of Legislature.
										2,676 12 0		



## Revenue.

Year.	Customs Duties.			Assessed and other Taxes.	Judicial Fines.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Imports.	Tonnage.	Excise.						
1854	£ s. d. 10,719 8 10	£ s. d. 1,381 14 2	£ s. d. 3,228 12 0	Nil.	£ s. d. 337 7 0½	£ s. d. 1,500 8 3	£ s. d. 17,177 10 3½	—	£ s. d. —
1855	£ s. d. 8,189 7 11	£ s. d. 1,171 10 0	£ s. d. 3,661 5 6	702 4 8	£ s. d. 648 3 10	£ s. d. 86 0 9	£ s. d. 14,458 11 11	—	£ s. d. 2,718 18 4½
1856	£ s. d. 8,300 1 3	£ s. d. 1,304 8 6	£ s. d. 3,279 12 6	348 18 3	£ s. d. 741 4 4½	£ s. d. 4,514 8 10	£ s. d. 18,488 13 8½	4,030 1 9½	—

## Expenditure.

Year.	Civil.	Judicial.	Ecclesiastical.	Education.	Police.	Prisons.	Other Expenditure.	Total.	Increase.	Decrease.
1854	£ s. d. 2,357 9 7	£ s. d. 2,966 18 5	£ s. d. 2,444 18 0	£ s. d. 903 13 9	£ s. d. 1,934 10 0½	£ s. d. 980 1 0	£ s. d. 6,196 6 1	£ s. d. 17,783 4 10½	—	£ s. d. —
1855	£ s. d. 2,383 18 9½	£ s. d. 3,481 3 9	£ s. d. 2,472 10 3	£ s. d. 152 16 3	£ s. d. 1,676 19 5½	£ s. d. 933 11 9	£ s. d. 3,441 4 9½	£ s. d. 14,542 3 0½	—	£ s. d. 3,241 1 10
1856	£ s. d. 2,631 17 3	£ s. d. 3,719 12 5	£ s. d. 2,089 16 11	£ s. d. 137 10 0	£ s. d. 1,890 18 1½	£ s. d. 966 14 3	£ s. d. 5,000 8 5	£ s. d. 14,266 17 4½	—	£ s. d. 275 2 8

ST. VINCENT. RETURN of all ASSETS of the COLONIAL TREASURY up to date, after deducting all outstanding Warrants; all Salaries and Accounts (so far as known) up to the end of February being also paid or deducted.

	£	s.	d.
Unexpended Balance of the Loan	439	14	2
General Balance from all other Sources	1,617	11	7
Total Assets in the Treasury	2,057	5	9

Treasury, St. Vincent,  
March 7, 1857.

WM. GRANT,  
Treasurer.

(TABULAR RETURN referred to in Note at foot of page 52.)

YEAR.	Total Revenue raised in the Colony.	Proportion of Revenue raised under Taxes upon Exports or Imports.	REMARKS.
	£   s.   d.	£   s.   d.	
1849	15,721 12 8	4,830 5 10	All these amounts are copied from the Blue Books for the respective years. Average total revenue collected in the years (1849 to 1854 inclusive), 15,885 <i>l.</i> 1 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i> Average proportion of the total revenue which was varied during the same six years for Export and Income Taxes, 2,981 <i>l.</i> 15 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i>
1850	16,305 9 11	3,707 18 8	
1851	15,927 10 8	2,619 9 2	
1852	14,391 12 7	460 4 4	
1853	17,311 14 7	6,272 12 4	
1854	15,752 7 3½	-   -   -	In addition to the revenue raised in the colony in 1854, a loan of 1,425 <i>l.</i> 3 <i>s.</i> was obtained by sale of Treasury Notes, but for the repayment of which no special provision was made, and a large portion of it therefore constituted part of the public debt of the colony on 1st January 1857.
1855	14,458 11 11	702 4 8	In addition to the revenue raised in the colony in 1856, a loan of 4,316 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> was obtained from the bank to clear off the accumulated liabilities of former years, but special provision was made to pay off this loan in about two years and a half without interfering with the ordinary current revenue and expenditure.
1856	14,172 3 6½	348 18 3	
	Estimated Total Revenue to be raised in the Colony.	Proportion of Revenue estimated to be raised under Taxes upon Exports or Imports.	
1867	15,320 0 0	2,000 0 0	Out of the estimated revenue of 15,320 <i>l.</i> for 1857, besides meeting all necessary current expenditure for the year, provision is made to pay off 2,000 <i>l.</i> of the loan of 4,316 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> obtained on December 31, 1856, to meet the then unpaid liabilities of the colony; and as provision is made for raising a similar sum from the same sources in 1858 and 1859, the whole of the loan and interest will be paid off in two and a half years, without imposing any additional taxation whatever, and without leaving any of the necessary current expenditure for those years unprovided for.

## ST. LUCIA.

ST. LUCIA.

No. 16.

No. 16.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor HINCKS to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 20.)

Windward Islands, Barbadoes, April 27, 1857.

(Received May 18, 1857.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the St. Lucia Blue Book for 1856, with the accompanying Report from Mr. Drysdale, Colonial Secretary and Administrator of the Government.

2. Having recently had occasion to address you regarding the state of education in St. Lucia, I have now to beg your consideration of the 7th, 8th, and 9th paragraphs of Mr. Drysdale's Despatch, with reference to this most important question.

3. You will, I am sure, be gratified to receive so favourable a report of the general condition of St. Lucia as Mr. Drysdale has been able to give.

I have, &amp;c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.,  
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) F. HINCKS.

Enclosure in No. 16.

Encl. in No. 16.

(No. 39.)

SIR,

St. Lucia, April 20, 1857.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency the Blue Book for 1856 (in duplicate), together with the usual annual Report thereon. The returns under the heads of revenue and expenditure for the year 1856 exhibit a satisfactory result, there being an increase of revenue of 1,468*l.* 18*s.* 10½*d.* over that of 1855, which was 12,145*l.* 6*s.* 10½*d.*, whilst the expenditure for the year was 12,734*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.*, against 14,791*l.* 8*s.* 11*d.* of the previous year, or a balance of expenditure of 2,056*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.*

2. The customs returns of imports and exports in like manner show an increase, which may, however, in some measure be ascribed to a more correct valuation of goods being made on the entry or clearance of vessels from the port; and at the same time the diminished expenditure may also be attributed to the absence of any extraordinary outlay, such as was occasioned in the preceding year for the payment of the expenses incurred during the prevalence of cholera throughout the island.

3. On the 31st December 1856 the treasurer's accounts showed a balance of cash of 643*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.*, and 526*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.* amount of outstanding advance warrants, besides a sum of 1,886*l.* at interest in the colonial bank to the credit of the Immigration Fund and the Road Loan Sinking Fund.

4. To these balances may also be added a sum of 499*l.* 8*s.* 7½*d.* remaining at the end of the year to the credit of the Education Fund, making a total of 3,445*l.* 5*s.* 8½*d.*, subject to payment of 1,597*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.* special balances, leaving 1,948*l.* 10*s.* 5½*d.* to the credit of the Colony.

5. This satisfactory state of the island finances is still further manifested by the fact that the entire amount of the purchase money of the Government buildings bought in 1851, and amounting, with interest, to 4,080*l.* sterling, has been paid off, and the property liberated from all liabilities or incumbrances.

6. The only public debt existing against the Colony is the Imperial loan of 3,000*l.*, which was taken in 1852 for the restoration of the roads and bridges of the island. This debt, however, is redeemable only after twenty years, and provision has been made by a permanent Ordinance for the payment of the interest and sinking fund.

7. There is no change to report in regard to the important question of education, the average attendance at the schools continuing much the same. In my last Report on the Blue Book I had occasion to remark on one of the principal causes of the comparatively small attendance of children at the public schools. Since then the subject has been brought under the consideration of

ST. LUCIA.

the Board of Education, and measures are now in progress having for their object a change in the system of selecting the teachers, which it is expected will operate advantageously in encouraging a larger attendance of pupils, by inspiring more confidence in the minds of the Roman Catholic Clergy, whose influence and countenance is essentially necessary to secure the attendance of the great mass of children, whose parents are almost all of that persuasion.

8. It is contemplated at the same time to establish a normal school for training young men as teachers, to be hereafter distributed in the rural districts.

9. The system to be adopted is that of the Irish National School; and as the teacher or superintendent to be selected for its introduction will be a person of approved principles and education, an opportunity will be afforded to parents capable of affording it to place their sons under his care as pupils,—a higher class of schools for youths being much wanted in the island.

10. The militia force, which at the end of 1855 was returned as consisting of 567 officers and men, has been since diminished considerably by the exclusion, on a revision of the muster rolls, of many unqualified and ineligible individuals, who had been enrolled at the time the Militia Ordinance first came into operation.

11. The returns furnished by the Adjutant General's Department show the present total strength of the militia to be 333 officers, non-commissioned officers, and men; the northern battalion being 230, and the southern battalion 100. I regret to say, that for some time past the discipline of the regiment has become very lax, and that owing to the apathy and indifference of the officers of the southern battalion the parades for drill exercise are evaded, or the duties so negligently performed that no good result can be expected.

12. The northern battalion of the militia, which assembles at Castries, the seat of Government, has, however, been better sustained; and from the advantages which the officers and men have had in being drilled under a competent military instructor, they may be considered now as an efficient body of men.

13. Both officers and men of the northern battalion have procured their regimental uniforms, but only a few of the southern battalion have complied with the law in this respect.

14. Five hundred stand of percussion guns given to the Colony by Her Majesty's Government for the use of the island militia have been received since the commencement of the year. Six 6-pounder field guns which were promised at the same time by Her Majesty's Secretary for War have not yet arrived.

15. The want of vigour in the application of the provisions of the Militia Law, and the little interest shown in respect to the advancement of the militia, is in a great degree to be attributed to the belief entertained by many, that the law establishing a militia will be now suspended or abolished on the conclusion of peace with Russia, and also to the known fact that a change in the present organization of the force has been recommended to Her Majesty's Government, with a view to a substitution of voluntary enrolment for compulsory service, as now required.

16. The following Ordinances were passed by the Legislature during the year:—

No. 1. 15th July 1856.—An Ordinance for fixing rates and duties to be raised for the public service of the year 1857, and for appropriating the same.

No. 2. 15th July 1856.—An Ordinance to repeal the Ordinance of 15th June 1852, entitled "An Ordinance to impose a tax upon the rental of houses and lots of land in certain towns and villages of this island, and to appropriate the same to purposes of local improvement."

No. 3. 15th July 1856.—An Ordinance to give to the ordinary Justices of the Peace of this Colony the same jurisdiction in cases of vagrancy as is conferred on the Stipendiary Magistrates of the said Colony by the Royal Order in Council of the 7th September 1838, and to amend sections 6th and 11th of the said Order in Council.

No. 4. 15th July 1856.—An Ordinance to repeal the Ordinance of the 6th day of May 1852 for amending the No. 6. of the 2d of May 1850, entitled "An Ordinance for constituting a corporate body in the town of Castries, and for enabling the town of Soufriere and the several rural districts in the island of Saint Lucia to incorporate themselves under the

"provisions of this Ordinance," and for declaring to be ineligible to the office of town councillor or auditor certain public officers other than those exempted by section 17 of the Ordinance No. 22. of the 18th August 1851.

No. 5. 15th July 1856.—An Ordinance to amend the Ordinance No. 6. of the 2d May 1850, entitled "An Ordinance for constituting a corporate body in the town of Castries, and for enabling the town of Soufriere and the several rural districts in the island of Saint Lucia to incorporate themselves under the provisions of this Ordinance."

No. 6. 17th July 1856.—An Ordinance to suspend for a limited period the duties imposed on the exportation of sugar, rum, and molasses under the Royal Order in Council of the 18th day of October 1854.

No. 7. 17th July 1856.—An Ordinance to amend and continue until the 27th day of July 1857 the Ordinance of this island of the 27th day of July 1855 for amending the Ordinance No. 7. of the 13th February 1851, entitled "An Ordinance to raise funds for promoting the education of the inhabitants of this island, and for facilitating their means of intercourse by the construction of roads and bridges," in so far as regards the duty imposed upon the export of logwood from this island, as fixed by Schedule B. to the said Ordinance annexed.

17. Of these laws the most important in its operation is that by which the collection of the export duties imposed on sugar, rum, and molasses for immigration purposes has been for a time suspended. The revenue from this source was appropriated to the payment of the sinking fund, and interest of a loan of 15,000*l.* offered by the Imperial Government to provide for the introduction of coolie immigrants into the colony. The Ordinances to this effect were passed in 1854, and have been allowed and confirmed by Her Majesty; but objections have been since raised by the authorities in India to some of the provisions of the Immigration Ordinance, and no coolies have been yet sent to this island. The suspension of the Loan Ordinance is, moreover, likely still further to retard the arrival of immigrants; but the Ordinance so suspending the collection of the export duties for the space of one year was passed by the Legislature on the urgent solicitation of the proprietors and planters themselves, who complained of having to continue to pay this tax whilst no immigrants had arrived.

18. The great advance in the price of colonial produce has stimulated the planters to extend the cane cultivation, and efforts are being made by a more liberal use of manures to augment the sugar crop. Improved mill machinery for expressing the cane juice has been introduced upon several estates, and cultivation has been resumed upon some properties which had been partially or altogether abandoned.

19. The aspect of the country generally is more promising, and the prospects of the agriculturist are encouraging. The island has been free from the visitation of any epidemic, and continues healthy. The effects of cholera in 1854 are still felt in the rural districts, where the demand for labour is great; and the necessity for augmenting the labouring population by means of immigration remains still to be provided for, no coolie immigrants having yet arrived.

20. I have the honour to annex to this Report an abstract of the Blue Book, together with the following statistical returns:—

No. 1.—Return showing the population employed in agriculture, the rate of wages for labour, the average price of sugar, and the quantity of sugar exported, during the years 1851, 1852, 1853, 1854, 1855, and 1856.

No. 2.—Return of sugar estates in cultivation in 1856: average number of labourers for each estate; number of acres cultivated in canes; quantity of sugar made; quantity of rum distilled; quantity of molasses obtained; and proportion of sugar to each labourer employed.

No. 3.—Return of certain articles of importation during the years 1851–52–53–54–55 and 1856.

No. 4.—Return of staple exports from St. Lucia, from 1839 to 1856 inclusive.

I have, &c.

His Excellency  
The Governor-in-Chief.

(Signed) J. V. DRYSDALE,  
Administering the Government.

## 62      REPORTS EXHIBITING THE PAST AND PRESENT

ST. LUCIA :

No. 1.

RETURN showing the POPULATION employed in AGRICULTURE, the Rate of Wages for Labour, the Average Price of Sugar, and the Quantity of Sugar exported, during the Years 1851, 1852, 1853, 1854, 1855, and 1856.

Year.	Population employed occasionally in Agriculture.	Average Rate of daily Wages.	Mean Rate of Wages.	Quantity of Sugar exported.	Average Price of 1 cwt. of Sugar.	Proportion which daily Wages bear to net Price of Sugar.
				Lbs.		
1851	3,807	8d. to 12d.	10d.	7,560,294	22s. 3d. or 267d.	26
1852	3,942	9½d. to 14d.	11½d.	7,113,904	22s. 3d. or 267d.	23
1853	3,718	8d. to 12d.	10d.	6,883,072	24s. 6d. or 294d.	29
1854	3,180	9½d. to 13½d.	11½d.	6,635,045	24s. 1d. or 289d.	26
1855	3,201	10d. to 14d.	11d.	6,356,821	30s. 5d. or 365d.	33½
1856	3,366	10d. to 14d.	11d.	5,793,435	30s. 1d. or 361d.	32½

J. V. DRYSDALE,  
Colonial Secretary.

No. 2.

RETURN of SUGAR ESTATES in Cultivation in 1856.

Number of Sugar Estates in Cultivation.	Average Number of Labourers for each Estate.	Number of Acres cultivated in Canes.	Quantity of Sugar made.	Quantity of Rum distilled.	Quantity of Molasses obtained.	Proportion of Sugar to each Labourer employed.
			Lbs.	Gall.	Gall.	Lbs.
35	39	3,600	5,793,435	88,190	183,721	1721.

J. V. DRYSDALE,  
Colonial Secretary.

No. 3.

TABLE of certain ARTICLES of IMPORTATION during the Years 1851-52-53-54-55 and 1856.

Articles.	Weight or Measure.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.
Bread - - -	Barrels	432	231	128	357	106	297
Butter - - -	Cwts.	170 0 10	148 2 12	193 0 11	194 1 6	217 0 2	584 0 11
Cheese - - -	"	52 2 20	51 1 9	23 3 9	49 0 22	46 1 13	79 0 12
Corn and Grain - -	Bushels	3,068	1,839	2,577	2,475	1,342	2,241
Corn Meal - - -	Barrels	500	77	62	209	117	734
Fish, dry - - -	Quintals	9,795	10,114	9,678	8,443	7,810	16,243
" pickled - - -	Barrels	313	769	299	481	146	333
" smoked - - -	Boxes	85	75	289	414	359	651
Flour, Wheat - - -	Barrels	5,894	4,548	3,983	5,437	3,261	5,693
Lard - - - - -	Cwts.	45 1 0	50 2 25	170 2 1	248 3 24	264 1 0	212 0 12
Meat, salted - - -	"	1,540 3 10	786 3 18	579 0 2	1,599 0 20	675 0 0	283 3 0
Oil, olive - - -	Gallons	4,765	4,318	3,932	4,210	4,599	3,123
Rice - - - - -	Cwts.	907 3 16	2,054 2 22	1,029 3 12	1,204 3 17	518 3 2	1,344 1 3
Salt - - - - -	Barrels	906	463	1,140	1,053	839	1,205
Tobacco, manu- } factured - - - }	Lbs.	5,532	6,590	6,666	10,210	4,193	4,035
Tobacco, unmanu- } factured - - - }	"	50,230	51,047	42,960	29,022	60,683	34,474
Vermicelli - - -	"	2,494	2,676	3,914	2,983	2,819	2,626
Vinegar - - - -	Gallons	1,063	1,673	1,253	1,270	1,328	1,611
Wines - - - - -	"	14,774	12,038	11,378	8,638	6,587	7,812
Live Stock - - -	Head	381	450	551	690	333	272
British manufac- } tured Goods }	£	33,788 12 9	46,112 19 4	35,538 2 6	47,639 13 0	25,541 5 5	23,312 8 8
Value of Imports	£	68,881 5 11	81,001 2 7	72,650 6 4	96,278 11 0	55,514 4 6	91,901 1 0

(Signed) R. G. M'HUGH,  
Her Majesty's Treasurer.

Treasury, 15th April 1857.

## STATEMENT OF STAPLE EXPORTS from ST. LUCIA, from 1839 to 1856 inclusive.

Date.	Sugar.	Coffee.	Molasses.	Rum.	Firewood.	Logwood.	Cocoa.	Other Maniac.
Year.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Cords.	Tons.	Lbs.	Barrels.
1839	3,487,000	448,650	122,800	1,200	55	195	91,280	—
1840	3,625,500	411,000	67,000	13,200	115	197	106,450	—
1841	4,782,400	82,704	101,300	13,300	175	130	68,656	—
1842	5,461,000	59,100	127,200	9,200	158	131	55,650	—
1843	7,283,360	48,379	136,310	286	179	56	80,961	—
1844	6,983,300	25,312	111,800	11,200	168	51	44,800	—
1845	7,041,100	67,078	99,700	17,000	287	69	130,592	—
1846	5,224,800	65,856	197,420	3,559	351	82	123,456	—
1847	10,512,422	48,363	166,021	43,468	167	167	105,476	—
1848	6,533,968	19,722	120,822	13,921	399	180	107,512	—
1849	7,874,832	31,471	104,042	5,391	467	97	104,912	—
1850	6,530,608	11,722	103,774	840	452	148	89,635	—
1851	7,560,224	25,979	122,158	958	300	156	122,875	—
1852	7,113,904	30,520	151,130	3,400	474	93	134,721	1,437
1853	6,883,072	16,068	166,850	2,890	310	365	186,782	463
1854	6,635,045	145	106,200	12,500	325	1,154	161,216	234
1855	6,856,821	745	102,835	38,848	200	1,294	137,931	—
1856	5,693,435	—	91,220	28,572	56	1,519	209,729	—

Treasury, 16th April 1857.

(Signed) R. G. M'HUGH,  
Her Majesty's Treasurer.

## ANTIGUA.

ANTIGUA.

No. 17.

No. 17.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor HAMILTON to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 39.)

Leeward Islands, Antigua,  
June 15, 1857.

(Received July 17, 1857.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward in duplicate the "Blue Book" of this colony for the year 1856. The lateness of its transmission has arisen from the difficulty of preparing, on the first occasion, the returns of imports and exports in the manner now required by the Board of Trade, and the consequent delay in furnishing them from the colonial revenue department, upon which devolves the duty of their compilation.

*Revenue and Expenditure.*

2. The comparative statement of revenue shows an increase of receipts over those of last year amounting to 12,000*l.* 12*s.* 1*d.*

3. The whole of this sum, however, cannot be set down as a true addition to the public resources. 3,823*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.* have been raised by Treasury bills, under the Act of 14th January 1856, of which 1,000*l.* are in circulation as one pound notes, not bearing interest, and payable on demand in cash at the Treasury. The remaining portion of the sum brought to the temporary aid of the public chest by this measure was made repayable by moieties on the 1st February in 1857 and 1858, and the bills falling due in the present year have been redeemed. To this amount of 3,823*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.*, raised by Treasury

## ANTIGUA.

bills, is to be added the sum of 889*l.* 1*s.* 11*½d.* in excess of the lodgments from the savings' bank during the preceding year, and which cannot, as the colony is liable for its repayment when called for, be considered as revenue, although operating as a loan in meeting the exigencies of the public service. Deducting the aggregate of 4,712*l.* 6*s.* 2*½d.* thus afforded from the total increase shown, there yet remains an excess of 7,283*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.* as true revenue. Of this, 3,629*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.* have been raised under the Act of January 1856, to meet the Treasury bills as they fall due. Without that amount it appears that the ordinary heads of revenue have in 1856 exceeded the production of 1855 in the sum of 3,658*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.* And in this circumstance is displayed satisfactory evidence of increase in trade and mercantile business consequent upon the revival of agricultural prosperity, for nearly the whole of the revenue, with the exception of the export duty, now for the first time imposed, is raised by tariff and tonnage duties, and the fluctuations of the receipts on other accounts very nearly balance. The amount for which the Treasury was authorized to issue Treasury bills on the security of duties imposed by the Act of 14th January was 6,000*l.*, of which, besides the 1,000*l.* obtained by the circulation of notes payable on demand, 5,000*l.* were intended to be raised on bills bearing interest at 5 per cent.; one moiety of which it was provided should be repayable on the 1st January 1857, and the remainder on the like day in 1858. It was found, however, that some unwillingness existed to invest for so short a time as one year, and preference was shown for the bills running to 1858. Thus only 600*l.* was obtained on the paper redeemable in 1857; and as the finances of the colony became, in the course of a short time, much more elastic, advantage was not taken of the Act to its full extent.

4. The expenditure has also exceeded that of the preceding year, but not in an equal degree with the difference of revenue. Apart from the fluctuations naturally expected under some heads, the increase is accounted for principally by disbursements of 1,200*l.* for repairs of government house, of 415*l.* for bounty on immigration from the Cape de Verdes, of 830*l.* on account of the recently established fire brigade, and of an increase of 795*l.* in the expense of the civil establishment. This last increase is caused by the remodelling of the departments of the colonial secretary, provost marshal, and registrar of deeds, which officers are now paid by fixed salaries, in lieu of the fees which formed a large portion of their remuneration under the former system, and such fees are now paid into the treasury.

*Public Debt.*

5. A diminution of the debt due by the colony was effected; another instalment of the loan from Her Majesty's Treasury was punctually liquidated; local claims were discharged to the extent of 650*l.*; and the financial returns speak in favour of the resources of the colony.

*Public Works.*

6. A more than usual expenditure was incurred in repairs of public buildings. For some years past the only disbursements appearing under the head of Works have been on account of the usual continuous repair of roads in the several districts of the island. During the past year the sum of 1,200*l.* has been applied in the attempt to make the government house habitable. Long neglect had rendered necessary repairs so extensive, and the site is so bad, that greater prudence would have been evinced in the erection of another edifice in a preferable situation. The Assembly, however, did not acquiesce in that view; and the alternative was adopted of repairing the present house, which, however, can never be converted into a commodious or fit residence for the governor.

*Legislation.*

7. Among the measures adopted by the Legislature during the past year are some of importance and good effect in their operation.



8. The establishment of a fire brigade, which for some years had been proposed, has been effected by an Act, under which a competent corps has been formed.

9. An Act was passed for registering births and deaths, which will be of benefit in ascertaining the existence and causes of unhealthiness among the population, in order that such information may be turned to practical account for the prevention of disease.

10. In my Despatch No. 42 of the 26th July last, transmitting the Act for establishing the Holberton Hospital, I adverted to the previous absence of all hospital accommodation. The establishment of this benevolent institution in an effective state is creditable to the colony. The progress of the institution is most gratifying; and the quarterly reports afford abundant evidence of the blessings it confers upon the poorer inhabitants of the colony and the helpless stranger.

11. A Census Act was also passed, under which much information was derived.

#### *Population.*

12. The table of population has been prepared from the statistics collected under the authority of the Census Act. I append a copy of the report of the colonial secretary, who is ex officio registrar general, and of the tabulated statements accompanying it. As is observed by him, there had been reason to doubt the accuracy of the previous enumeration of 1851, effected through the agency of the police; and as the Registration Act promised such a record of the increase or diminution of the population as to afford reliable data, it was deemed advisable to obtain a new census as a basis and starting point for the future.

13. The measure was in fact intended to be simultaneous with the initiation of a system of registry, although from accidental circumstances the Act for this latter purpose was first passed.

14. No inconvenience will result, however, from the delay of the Census Act, as the Registration Act being in operation, the future increase or decrease can be estimated from the day on which the census was taken.

15. The result of this investigation appears to confirm the fears entertained that the population is on the decrease; and, if confidence may be placed in the experience of the short time during which the registration has been in action, the table of births and deaths for the period from the 1st August to the 31st December included in the registrar's report confirms this deduction. This subject has recently received much consideration; and at this time a joint committee of the Council and Assembly is charged with an inquiry into the more immediate causes of the increase of mortality, and present excess of deaths over births, shown by the report of the registrar general. At my suggestion, a bill has been introduced, and is now before the Assembly, having for its object the medical relief of certain classes of the population, and supplying the services of professional men to districts almost wholly destitute of such aid.

#### *Miscellaneous Numerical Returns.*

16. The only circumstance presented by this table worthy of notice is found in the continued augmentation of the deposits in the savings' bank. As already observed, they exceeded the amount of 1855 by 889*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.*; and the sum for which the public chest was liable on the 31st December amounted to 4,658*l.* This fact is the more remarkable, as it was imagined that the issue of the treasury debentures for small sums bearing a higher interest than that paid by the savings' bank to depositors would have had the effect of withdrawing lodgments for the purpose of investment in those securities. The facility which is afforded by the savings' bank for procuring at short notice for immediate use

## ANTIGUA.

any portion of a sum lodged, without removing the whole amount, and the ease with which small additions of broken amounts can be made to their stock by those who avail themselves of the institution, appear to have protected it from any injurious operation of the debentures, which were taken up by parties desiring to dispose of larger sums of money than are allowed by the rules of the savings' bank to be there deposited.

17. The number of depositors returned is less than in the preceding year, but the diminution is not real. In 1855 the names of all persons were included who had accounts with the bank during the year. On the present occasion, only those are comprehended in the return who had deposits at the end of the year. Six friendly societies have accounts with the bank, but are only set down as individual depositors.

*Education.*

18. The table of schools exhibits little variation in the number of day pupils, but a considerable increase among those attending Sunday schools. The following is a summary of the returns for the year:—

DENOMINATION.	DAY SCHOOLS.			SUNDAY SCHOOLS.		
	No. of Schools.	Male Scholars.	Female Scholars.	No. of Schools.	Male Scholars.	Female Scholars.
Church of England -	17	574	502	7	210	256
Moravian -	10	908	785	16	1,526	1,773
Wesleyan -	5	308	207	10	669	935
Presbyterian -	2	53	37	—	—	—
Misc Institution -	3	124	47	—	—	—
Totals -	37	1,967	1,578	33	2,405	2,964

	1855.	1856.
Total Day Scholars -	3,561	3,545
Total Sunday Scholars -	3,899	5,369

19. The colony is still without any provision from the local government for the education of the youthful population. A bill was passed by the Assembly making an annual grant of 1,000*l.* for this purpose, but some of its provisions were considered objectionable by the Council, by whom modifications were proposed, and the Assembly declined to proceed with the measure, upon the ground of privilege. It is understood that another bill will be introduced on the subject.

*Imports and Exports.*

20. The change in the forms of return required by the Board of Trade, and directed in your circular despatch of 28th August last, renders it difficult to institute a just comparison between the tables now under consideration and those furnished for 1855. It is, however, obvious from the increased productiveness of the tariff duties, amounting to nearly 20 per cent. on the sum collected in 1855, that the imports of the colony have been largely augmented in comparison with that year. For the future, the improved forms adopted will afford greater facility for comparison than has heretofore been obtained; but the preparation of them for the first time, from materials not originally collected with that object, has proved to be laborious; and on this occasion the forms cannot be considered free from imperfection.

21. The exports of the island for the year 1856, shown in the following statement, have not equalled those of the two preceding years, although the crop is not considered to have fallen below a fair average :—

COUNTRIES TO WHICH EXPORTED.	SUGAR.			MULBERRY.		RICE.		
	H.	T.	B.	P.	B.	P.	H.	B.
United Kingdom	11,832	921½	3,900	4,903	41	1,508	80	21
British North America	242	9	190	600	3	294	30	—
United States	952	130	1,305	928	2	44	3	—
British West Indies	68	—	205	25	2	2	—	—
Madeira	—	—	31	—	—	—	—	—
Foreign West Indies :								
Colonies belonging to Holland	9	—	53	17	—	76	—	—
Denmark	10	—	11	6	—	—	2	—
Sweden	—	—	21	—	—	3	—	2
Spain	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	—
Totals	15,113	1,061½	5,716	6,477	48	1,929	119	23

#### Gaols and Prisoners.

22. It is satisfactory to note a great reduction on the number of total commitments for the year, which are 745 as against 1,003 in 1855.

23. The insufficiency of the present gaol accommodation to afford the means of proper classification and separation of the prisoners has been brought to the notice of the legislative bodies. And in compliance with a request conveyed in a joint resolution of the two houses. I have obtained the services of a competent person, Mr. Hart, the superintendent of the gaol at Trinidad, who has prepared the plans and specifications for the proposed alterations, estimated to cost about 900*l*. There can be little question that hitherto the want of space and accommodation has prevented prison regulations being enforced with sufficient stringency to render incarceration, even with what is termed hard labour, an efficient restraint upon crime.

#### Conclusion.

24. It has been found by experience that a moderate duty on imports does not affect the retail price to the labourer, while the revenue thence derived has diminished the financial difficulties of the colony; and such duty being in operation throughout the year, while it has not been felt burdensome by any class, has prevented any public engagement being in arrear.

25. With the increase of trade there has been a corresponding rise in the value of landed property; and the planter pursues his vocation with the intelligence and energy characteristic of his class.

I have, &c.

(Signed) KER B. HAMILTON.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.,  
&c. &c. &c.

The REPORT of the REGISTRAR GENERAL of BIRTHS and DEATHS on the CENSUS taken NOVEMBER 17, 1856, together with TABULATED STATEMENTS.

## CONTENTS.

## REPORT OF REGISTRAR GENERAL.

TABLE	1.—Ages of Population, classified in Decennaries.
"	2.—Occupations of Population.
"	3.—Place of Birth and Complexion of ditto.
"	4.—Religious Denomination of ditto.
"	5.—Population, and Houses and Tenure of Houses of the various Villages in the several Parishes.
"	6.—Population and Houses of the various Estates in the several Parishes.
"	7.—Population of the several Parishes, according to Censuses of 1844, of 1851, and of 1856.
"	8.—Abstract of Births and Deaths for Period from 1st August to 31st December 1856.
"	9.—Classification of Causes of Death for same Period.
"	10.—Returns of Baptisms and Burials for Year 1856.

Office of Registrar General of Births and Deaths,  
February 6, 1857.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Excellency, for communication to the honours of legislature, my report, with tabulated statements, of the census taken on the 17th November last.

2. The Act for registering Births and Deaths requires that I shall yearly furnish the Governor and Council and Assembly with a general abstract of the number of births and deaths registered during the previous year. As it will for the future be desirable that such reports should be for the annual period represented by the calendar year, I take this opportunity of submitting abstracts for the period from the 1st August to 31st December last, during which the Act has been in operation, with a return showing the number of baptisms and burials for the same time, as well as during the earlier portion of the year 1856. The information afforded by these latter tables is of interest and importance cognate with that obtained from the census returns, and the whole may be considered with propriety as forming one subject.

3. The returns of the present census show a total of 35,408, being a decrease, as against that of 1844, of 770 on the total population; and, as compared with the result of the enumeration of 1851, under the direction of the superintendent of police, exhibiting so great a difference as 1,728 less than the total amount of 37,136 shown on that occasion. So important a discrepancy with the latest statistics collected under the superintendence of a zealous and active officer would have led me to believe that much error must be present in the statements now submitted, were it not that the conclusions which they offer are supported by circumstances at variance with the supposition that the population had increased between the years 1844 and 1851. Further, it must be recollected that the census of the latter year was taken by the police force with such unremunerated assistance as they were able to obtain, and that in consequence the number of persons engaged in the service was inadequate to its completion in one day. Probably for the most part the aid which the police received wanted the stimulus of reward to insure care and accuracy. The circumstance of the impossibility of effecting the enumeration for the whole island on the same day was, however, alone sufficient to cast doubt on the correctness of the returns; and I believe that others share with me the opinion that in investigating the results, and judging of the accuracy of the present census, it will be preferable to accept the tables of 1844 as affording the most reliable basis for comparison.

4. We find on reference to them that there is a reduction of 770 on the total population, notwithstanding that allowance must be made for the number of 1,030 natives of Madeira and the Cape de Verde Islands who have immigrated since that date. The ordinary fluctuations in the population of the middle and upper classes of society may be held to balance themselves on a series of years. Of the total diminution of 1,800 in the eighteen years which have elapsed, a very considerable portion, it is impossible to say

No. 1. Ages.
No. 2. Occupations.
No. 3. Place of Birth & Complexion.
No. 4. Religious Denomination.
No. 5. Population of Towns and Villages.
No. 6. Place of Estates.
No. 7. Comparative Statement of Census of 1844 and 1851.
No. 8. Abstract of Births and Deaths.
No. 9. Classification of Causes of Death.
No. 10. Returns of Baptisms and Burials.

how much, may be accounted for by the departure of the numerous persons who are congregated by the presence of a garrison, almost all of whom probably left the island on the removal of Her Majesty's troops in 1854. The remaining deficit is perhaps scarcely so large as might have been expected, if facts which have been recently displayed by the working of the Act for registering births and deaths had formerly been more generally known.

4. In the absence of any record of births and deaths, the only source of information as to the increase or decrease of the population was the annual return of baptisms and burials obtained from the clergy for the Blue Book. These returns are given in the margin for the last thirteen years. It will be observed, that although the number of burials in 1856 is largely in excess of those in 1844, yet that the total number of baptisms and burials for the whole period since the last census would seem to indicate some increase of the population. Upon this circumstance has been founded the opinion of those who are willing to believe that there has been no diminution. The general impression of those whom professional occupations or other causes have brought into close intercourse with the classes constituting the bulk of the people has inclined, however, from their own experience, to regard such conclusions as fallacious. And, unfortunately, information which is beyond dispute, furnished by the Act for registering births and deaths, only too strongly corroborates the unpleasant conviction that there has existed for some time a serious tendency to decrease in the population.

6. On applying to the clergy at the end of last year for the information usually furnished by them, I requested that the number of baptisms and burials for the time during which the Registration Act has been in force might be distinguished from that for the earlier part of the year; I have thus been enabled to collate the number of deaths shown by the general registry with the number of interments for the same period by the several ecclesiastical establishments in the colony. I find that whereas 689 deaths are registered, only 572 burials appear to have been performed by the clergy. The inevitable inference is caused that 117 interments have taken place without any religious offices, and the discrepancy is greatly more than can be accounted for by the supposition that it may be composed of deaths of very young children before the age at which baptism is usually administered. Placing in juxtaposition the number of births registered (413) and of baptisms for the same period (342), the difference apparent is 71. Admitting that this number might be wholly made up of infants still-born, or dying at very early age before baptism, and therefore buried without funeral service, there yet remains the number of 46 deaths in a period of five months unaccounted for by Christian burial.

7. The conclusions at which I arrive from the consideration of these facts, and which must, I fear, be regarded as unavoidable, are—first, that any estimates as to the state of the population, formed solely on the ecclesiastical returns of baptisms and burials, will be fallacious; secondly, that in view of the statements which I submit, it is obvious that interments take place after baptism without the funeral service; and thirdly, that as we are not aware of any cause for believing the rate of mortality as compared to births during the past five months to be peculiarly exceptional, we are driven to the admission that a very important drain upon the population has been for some while in existence, as shown by an excess of 276 deaths over the births for the period during which the Registration Act has been in force.

8. It is obvious that much less than half such a proportionate excess as has been exhibited during the last five months will be more than sufficient to have caused the whole diminution of the population since 1844, even without reference to those persons who have probably departed with the garrison, and from other causes.

9. Attentive examination of all these details, together with my knowledge of the pains and labour which have been bestowed by my coadjutors in this service upon the preparation of the materials for the tables which I have the honour to submit, give me every reason to believe that they are in the main as correct as it is generally possible to make statistics of this description. That they are altogether free from the possibility of admixture of error is not pretended. But the local knowledge common to small communities bestowed in many cases the means of detecting and correcting accidental inaccuracy and supplying omissions. Care has been accordingly taken to revise the returns of the enumerators where, through inadvertence, the information originally supplied has been insufficient. I therefore believe that the present census presents, at least, a very close approximation to the actual facts intended to be ascertained. It may appear almost invidious to distinguish the returns from any one district as more worthy of mention than others, when all the registrars have evinced so much desire to furnish their returns in as perfect a form as possible; but I am led to remark upon the extreme beauty and completeness of the forms received from Mr. Justice Black, the registrar for the parish of St. Paul. I am assured, and believe from my own examination, that they may be entirely depended upon. Yet it will be observed that they exhibit in that parish alone a difference of 764 persons from the number shown by the returns of 1851; this variance being probably composed chiefly of persons who followed the fortunes of the military forces formerly stationed in the colony.

10. Not many remarks are necessary on the mode of arrangement which has been adopted for the tabular statements annexed. It is hoped they are sufficiently clear to explain themselves. In many particulars I am indebted to the very excellent forms used

ASTIGUA.

Years.	Bur.	Bis.
1844—	569—	764
1845—	1,009—	964
1846—	967—	964
1847—	1,081—	950
1848—	1,170—	1,027
1849—	1,194—	1,006
1850—	1,157—	950
1851—	1,092—	902
1852—	1,092—	1,090
1853—	1,139—	1,045
1854—	971—	1,109
1855—	1,060—	972
1856—	1,039—	1,179

13,467—13,214

Table 8 and 10.

Table No. 9.

Table No. 7.

## ANTIGUA.

in the last census taken in the neighbouring island of St. Kitts; but I have found it advisable to modify to some extent those of which I have availed myself, and to omit others as unnecessary and repetitious.

## Table No. 1.

11. The classification of ages is in decennial in preference to quinquennial periods, because in most instances the bulk of the population are unable to afford precise information as to their ages, and the enumerator has to arrive at a decision upon his own judgment. It is more possible to form a tolerably accurate conclusion as to age from personal appearance between periods of ten years than within those of five.

## Table No. 2.

11. A reference to the Abstract of Births and Deaths registered since the 1st August presents the lamentable fact that of a total mortality of 688, 188 are deaths of infants under one year of age, and of these that 54 were still-born. Deducting the number of still-born children, we have yet to regard with serious consideration the disclosure that so large a number as 134 children in the short period of five months have died while still in their mother's arms. At this rate the amount for twelve months would be 322; being 21 per cent., or rather more than one-fifth of the total deaths registered, without including still-born children.

12. Such a state of things demands all the careful investigation that legislative power with scientific aid can accomplish. The destitute condition of the more eastern portions of the island and other country districts in respect of medical assistance has been brought to the notice of the houses of legislature by your Excellency. It was understood that those bodies had under consideration means for endeavouring to arrest, so far as human efforts can avail, the portentous amount of mortality too plainly prevalent. But if importance is attached to the weight of evidence which is brought by the Registration Act, to corroborate what before it was passed was only a well-grounded belief, it would be well that there should be no delay in putting into action any scheme which may be deemed feasible for this end.

13. A correlative subject, of by no means minor importance, is the necessity for ascertaining the capability of the women practising as midwives among the bulk of the population, before they are allowed to act in the office they undertake. The large number of still-born children, and the great proportion which the detailed returns show of children perishing within a very few days, often only hours, after birth, should be enough to insure attention on this point. It is almost beyond a doubt that a fearful loss of life is the result of ignorance, and, in many cases, culpable unsuitness for their duties on the part of the midwives.

14. In conclusion, I have only further to state, that the expenses of the census, including the printing of fifty copies of the tables and report, have amounted to 155*l.* 7*s.*, as shown by the schedule subjoined. The enumerators were advisedly compensated at a rate for every hundred persons, in order to stimulate the desire to obtain as full returns as possible; any probability of false statements being controlled by the supervision of the registrars, and requiring the names or description of all parties returned.

I have, &c.,

A. MUSGRAVE,

Registrar-General.

His Excellency Governor Hamilton,  
&c.      &c.      &c.

## EXPENSES OF CENSUS.

*Fees to Enumerators.*

Parish :				£	s.	d.
SAINT PETER.	Population.	Villages	-	-	-	1759
		Estates	-	-	-	2058
SAINT MARY.	Ditto.	Villages	-	-	-	2797
		Estates	-	-	-	1340
SAINT PHILIP.	Ditto.	Villages	-	-	-	2578
		Estates	-	-	-	1381
SAINT PAUL.	Ditto.	Villages	-	-	-	3094
		Estates	-	-	-	696
SAINT GEORGE.	Ditto.	Villages	-	-	-	2200
		Estates	-	-	-	1608
SAINT JOHN.	Ditto.	Town	-	-	-	8515
		Villages	-	-	-	4013
		Estates	-	-	-	2769
						132
Expenses of printing Report, Tables, Enumeration						12
Forms, &c. &c.						0
						£155
						7

\* Of this amount 13*l.* still remains unpaid.

No. 1.—AGEA of the TOTAL POPULATION, classified in Decennaries.

PARISHES.	MALES.						FEMALES.						Total Males.	Total Females.	Total Popu- lation.	
	Under 10 Years.	Between 10 and 20.	Between 20 and 30.	Between 30 and 40.	Between 40 and 50.	Above 50 Years.	Under 10 Years.	Between 10 and 20.	Between 20 and 30.	Between 30 and 40.	Between 40 and 50.	Above 50 Years.				
Saint John : City - Estates and Vil- lages -	788 857	613 672	738 576	609 537	381 391	240 205	104 124	965 744	878 612	1,143 732	857 518	372 233	229 154	3,473 3,382	5,042 3,400	8,515 6,782
Saint Mary -	1,645	1,285	1,314	1,166	772	445	228	1,709	1,490	1,875	1,405	605	383	6,835	8,412	15,247
Saint Paul -	540	426	283	275	217	147	115	549	380	308	306	163	102	2,013	2,124	4,137
Saint Philip -	530	377	292	288	261	160	86	425	421	479	341	219	181	1,994	2,306	4,300
Saint Peter -	520	364	363	291	177	127	84	483	365	413	283	202	145	1,926	2,033	3,959
Saint George -	442	312	396	327	302	122	54	401	297	408	328	213	145	1,895	1,932	3,827
TOTAL	4,200	3,137	3,004	2,636	1,827	1,110	660	4,111	3,296	3,924	2,938	1,381	1,082	16,624	18,784	35,408

No. 2.—OCCUPATIONS of the TOTAL POPULATION.

Parish.	Agriculture.		TRADES, &c.																								Domestic Duties suspended, and unemployed.	Total Population.			
	Clerical.	Professional and Liberal.	Domestic Servants.	Assessors.	Bakers.	Butchers.	Blacksmiths.	Cabinet Makers and Carpenters.	Coppersmiths.	Drummers.	Engineers.	Fishermen.	Farmers.	Goldsmiths.	Hatters.	Landowners.	Midwives.	Masons.	Millers.	Painters.	Plumbers.	Shoemakers.	Shipwrights.	Silversmiths.	Tanners & Binders.	Watchmakers.			Writers.		
Saint John	25	237	111	4,286	650	613	56	78	472	142	14	2	2	1,331	7	12	382	727	15	135	125	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15,817	
Saint Mary	11	3	85	3,077	68	6	8	89	80	22	1	1	1	31	1	25	68	4	4	48	4	3	2	56	16	21	4	1	512	4,137	
Saint Paul	13	35	52	1,728	170	6	11	10	115	48	1	1	1	19	3	915	2	47	3	47	3	15	152	27	3	3	—	—	1,656	4,300	
Saint Philip	5	14	56	3,002	116	11	3	25	92	32	1	1	1	25	1	90	3	10	63	50	1	6	85	18	9	—	—	—	1,127	3,959	
Saint Peter	3	32	38	2,012	159	14	3	13	74	91	1	1	1	17	3	49	5	37	1	4	7	11	70	15	6	—	—	—	1,156	3,817	
Saint George	2	—	—	—	35	14	3	19	88	46	—	—	—	1	1	49	2	85	2	4	4	10	49	11	4	—	—	—	325	3,827	
Total.	61	340	313	14,397	1,291	4,162	76	162	876	321	15	6	6	3,348	16	13	145	1,204	50	398	312	6	30	22	5	13	53	147	5	11,335	35,408

No. 3.—PLACE OF BIRTH, and COMPLEXION, of the TOTAL POPULATION.

NAME OF PARISH.	PLACE OF BIRTH.						COMPLEXION.			TOTAL.
	Antigua.	Other W. I. Colonies.	Great Britain and Ireland.	Cape de Verde Isles.	Madeira.	Elsewhere.	Black.	White.	Coloured.	
Saint John	13,948	590	203	120	883	58	10,004	1,191	4,102	16,297
Saint Mary	3,985	49	19	—	67	17	3,574	138	425	4,137
Saint Paul	4,167	72	32	1	41	77	3,438	138	814	4,390
Saint Philip	3,764	48	12	13	117	5	3,258	252	449	3,939
Saint Peter	3,578	35	27	42	126	9	2,948	277	592	3,817
Saint George	3,631	27	29	7	113	1	3,300	176	332	3,808
TOTAL	33,073	821	322	183	847	162	26,522	2,172	6,714	35,408

No. 4.—RELIGIOUS DENOMINATION of the TOTAL POPULATION.

NAME OF PARISH.	RELIGIOUS DENOMINATION.						TOTAL.
	Church of England.	Church of Scotland.	Moravian.	Wesleyan.	Roman Catholic.	Not Specified.	
Saint John	6,835	226	4,776	3,056	304	100	15,297
Saint Mary	1,032	2	2,795	258	30	—	4,137
Saint Paul	1,283	3	1,906	1,155	43	—	4,390
Saint Philip	1,586	0	804	1,468	101	—	3,939
Saint Peter	2,432	4	171	1,073	137	—	3,817
Saint George	2,401	11	1,082	204	110	—	3,808
TOTAL	15,589	246	11,534	7,214	725	100	35,408

No. 5.—POPULATION and HOUSES of the TOWNS and VILLAGES in the several PARISHES.

	POPULATION.			TENURE.			HOUSES.	
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Freehold.	Leasehold.	Tenancy at Will.	Occupied.	Unoccupied.
SAINT JOHN.								
City of Saint John	3,474	5,041	8,515	264	150	365	779	—
All Saints	133	150	283	50	10	—	60	—
Saint James	159	190	349	49	13	9	71	—
Hamiltons	108	94	202	44	—	—	44	—
Aberdeen	26	20	46	7	1	—	8	—
Wilcox	47	61	108	14	1	—	15	—
Laws	11	11	22	2	6	—	8	—
Williams' Farm	28	18	46	5	1	—	6	—
Bendale	20	24	44	9	—	—	9	—
Bush Town	19	14	33	6	—	—	6	—
Ferris' Farm	5	4	9	1	1	—	2	—
Fort James	15	10	25	—	—	1	1	—
Allynnes	151	128	279	35	11	—	46	—
Hatnings	47	55	102	24	—	—	24	—
Potters	89	90	179	30	8	—	38	—
Grays	167	214	381	38	13	—	51	—
Tomlinsons	83	89	172	32	11	—	63	—
Cooks	19	17	36	3	4	—	7	—
Galley Bay	190	177	367	46	6	—	52	—
Grays' Hill	195	200	395	48	18	—	66	—
Side Hill & Green Bay	463	460	923	115	25	1	141	—
Goat Hill	8	2	10	—	—	1	1	—
Gracefield	2	5	7	1	—	—	1	—
Oliver	5	7	12	2	—	—	2	—
TOTAL	5,447	7,081	12,528	845	279	377	1,501	—



	POPULATION.			TENURE.			HOUSES.	
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Freehold.	Leasehold.	Tenancy at Will.	Occupied.	Unoccupied.
<b>SAINT MARY.</b>								
Crabb Hill	60	73	133	23	—	—	23	—
Johnson's Point	80	82	162	29	1	2	32	—
Dalsol's	4	2	6	1	—	1	2	—
Ullin's	54	50	104	23	3	5	31	—
Saint Mary's Glebe	7	3	10	—	—	4	4	—
Bailey Hill	10	9	19	2	—	1	3	—
Old Road Town	47	49	96	17	7	1	25	—
Grace Bay	19	31	50	8	—	1	9	—
Sea Valley	16	28	44	7	2	—	9	—
Fairfield	49	65	114	14	—	4	18	—
Green Hill (1)	35	38	73	12	—	1	13	—
Kingston	36	47	83	11	6	—	17	—
Fisher's	9	7	16	3	1	1	5	—
River	51	53	104	10	15	—	25	—
Nanton's	35	50	85	5	16	—	21	—
Cedar Grove	18	26	44	6	—	5	11	—
John Hagbes	60	68	128	5	20	8	33	—
Bishop's	59	57	116	22	6	3	31	—
Green Hill (11)	107	112	219	8	50	—	58	—
Jenning's	59	58	117	13	7	5	25	—
Thompson's	95	94	189	36	6	—	42	—
Darby's	66	59	125	—	36	—	36	—
McGregor's	12	8	20	2	—	5	5	—
Dunning's	25	20	45	10	1	—	11	—
Jenning's (top)	21	21	42	8	—	—	8	—
Gillards	27	33	60	14	—	—	14	—
Bolans	238	270	508	63	45	15	123	—
Dunning's (bottom)	10	12	22	3	—	—	4	—
Roses	23	15	38	—	7	1	8	—
Tottenham	10	15	25	—	3	1	4	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,342</b>	<b>1,455</b>	<b>2,797</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>SAINT PHILIP.</b>								
The Rectory	6	10	16	1	—	—	1	—
Farrs Hill Village	431	482	913	232	—	26	258	—
Seaton's	372	419	791	173	—	33	206	—
Newfield	197	206	403	65	1	8	73	—
Willoughby Bay	41	46	87	12	—	5	17	—
Wilkie's	108	141	249	44	—	3	47	—
Mayers	21	19	40	8	—	—	8	—
Salters	23	24	47	10	—	1	11	—
McKay Lands	3	2	5	—	—	1	1	—
Sandy Ground	2	1	3	1	—	—	1	—
Brooks Lands	4	7	11	1	—	—	1	—
Grays Hill	5	8	13	3	—	1	4	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,213</b>	<b>1,365</b>	<b>2,578</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>628</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>SAINT GEORGE.</b>								
Winthrop's Village	163	146	309	68	3	—	71	—
Barnes Hill	84	110	194	37	16	—	53	—
Saint Marks	178	187	365	84	11	3	98	—
Osborns Farm	103	110	213	50	4	—	54	—
Sea View Farm	583	536	1,119	275	9	—	284	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,111</b>	<b>1,089</b>	<b>2,200</b>	<b>514</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>—</b>

ANTIGUA.

No. 5.—continued.—Population and Houses of the Towns and Villages, &amp;c.

	POPULATION.			TENURE.			HOUSES.	
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Freehold.	Leasehold.	Tenancy at Will.	Occupied.	Unoccupied.
<b>SAINT PAUL.</b>								
English Harbour	369	617	986	73	15	165	253	20
Falmouth	84	127	211	33	5	5	43	—
The Ridge	32	30	62	—	—	13	13	16
Ffryes	55	65	122	21	—	7	28	—
Victoria	38	47	85	16	—	2	18	—
Bethesda	138	161	299	57	11	—	68	—
Grace Hill	65	86	151	24	2	2	28	—
Liberta	389	399	788	150	7	—	157	6
Backshorns	10	9	19	4	—	—	4	—
Edwards	29	34	63	16	—	—	16	—
Sweets	280	292	572	137	1	3	136	10
Jenny Bush	81	90	171	—	53	—	53	—
Spring Hill	58	58	116	21	2	1	24	—
Bailey Hill	15	16	31	7	1	—	8	—
Ding-a-ding-nook	7	11	18	3	—	—	8	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,631</b>	<b>2,043</b>	<b>3,694</b>	<b>562</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>852</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>SAINT PETER.</b>								
Parham	227	273	500	81	34	—	115	6
Glebe	55	67	123	—	35	—	35	—
Freemans	245	282	527	120	17	11	148	24
Pares	54	85	139	35	3	5	43	7
Osborn	47	54	101	28	—	—	28	2
Parham Lodge	90	104	194	—	50	4	54	—
Parham Hill	41	42	83	—	11	6	17	—
Vernons	41	41	82	—	6	17	23	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>811</b>	<b>948</b>	<b>1,759</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>42</b>

No. 6.—POPULATION AND HOUSES OF THE ESTATES IN THE SEVERAL PARISHES.

	POPULATION.			HOUSES.	
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Occupied.	Unoccupied.
<b>SAINT JOHN.</b>					
Thibou's	21	26	47	2	13
Wood	31	28	59	25	2
Drews Hill	27	20	47	10	—
Skerrits and Clare Hall	64	61	125	42	2
Dunbars	30	37	67	25	—
Ottos	44	50	94	32	6
Langfords	105	85	191	47	4
Crosbies	35	26	62	30	1
Hodges Bay	34	33	67	15	—
Briggies	42	48	90	20	—
Thibou Jarvis	122	117	239	65	4
Mount Pleasant	35	27	62	14	3
Wetherills	67	77	144	33	3
Cedar Valley	70	62	132	45	1
Will Blizards	26	21	47	17	—
Tomlinsons	21	23	44	10	2
Golden Grove	34	30	64	21	1
Marble Hill	59	51	110	27	2
Sir Geo. Thomas, Upper	45	29	74	24	3
Sir Geo. Thomas, Lower	24	27	51	15	—
Hawkes Bill	9	6	15	1	—
Brecknock	16	20	36	10	2
Turnbull's	10	17	27	12	1
Belvidere	5	1	6	2	1
Buckley's	2	—	2	1	2
Saint Clare	4	5	9	8	—
Mount View	4	8	12	1	—
Cookes	11	10	21	6	—
Frirs Hall	45	33	78	24	4
Galley Bay	19	12	31	9	7

## STATE OF HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS. 75

No. 6—continued.—Population and Houses of the Estates in the several Parishes.

ANTIGUA.

SAINT JOHN—continued.	POPULATION.			HOUSES.	
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Occupied.	Unoccupied.
Potters - - - - -	2	6	8	1	3
Villa - - - - -	15	16	31	19	1
Belmont - - - - -	23	26	49	14	5
Herberts - - - - -	23	23	46	13	2
George Byams - - - - -	5	4	9	2	4
Rose Hill - - - - -	3	3	6	4	1
Hill House - - - - -	8	6	14	2	—
Bendals - - - - -	20	36	56	20	—
McKinnons - - - - -	22	13	37	20	—
Harts and Royals - - - - -	58	59	117	36	1
Cassada Garden - - - - -	43	39	82	30	5
Adneys - - - - -	18	20	38	1	—
Gambles - - - - -	24	30	54	13	3
Union - - - - -	15	21	36	2	—
Yapton - - - - -	2	4	6	8	1
Denfield - - - - -	8	7	15	1	—
Bath Lodge - - - - -	32	33	65	24	1
Belle Vue - - - - -	21	26	47	14	—
Renfrew - - - - -	3	—	3	1	—
Body Ponds - - - - -	1	1	2	1	—
TOTALS - - - - -	1,409	1,360	2,769	821	91
SAINT PETER.					
Parham Hill - - - - -	22	30	52	17	—
Parham Lodge - - - - -	30	36	66	26	—
Parham New Work - - - - -	39	37	76	24	1
Cedar Hill, Upper - - - - -	47	51	98	40	4
Cedar Hill, Lower - - - - -	68	66	134	33	5
Upper Freemans - - - - -	21	13	34	7	—
Lower Freemans - - - - -	9	8	17	7	—
Jonas' - - - - -	12	11	23	3	—
Sandersons - - - - -	51	47	98	23	2
Big Duers - - - - -	25	30	55	19	—
Little Duers - - - - -	31	29	60	21	—
Yeamans - - - - -	18	8	26	8	—
Pares and Cochranes - - - - -	36	32	68	28	4
Diamond - - - - -	35	25	60	20	—
Bettya Hope - - - - -	96	93	189	40	5
Bettya Hope Garden - - - - -	60	53	113	24	4
Parrys - - - - -	83	71	154	67	8
Cotton Old Work - - - - -	52	50	102	27	4
Cotton New Work - - - - -	60	62	122	45	—
Gilberts - - - - -	33	42	75	18	1
Hawses' - - - - -	21	22	43	12	—
Mercers Creek - - - - -	41	36	77	22	—
Cocoanut Nut Hall - - - - -	50	34	84	33	—
Vernous - - - - -	40	25	65	24	4
Crabbs - - - - -	87	71	158	33	2
Narrows and Guano Island - - - - -	7	2	9	3	—
TOTALS - - - - -	1,074	994	2,058	628	44
SAINT GEORGE.					
Mount Lucie - - - - -	49	48	97	34	3
Donovans - - - - -	70	58	128	45	—
North Sound - - - - -	18	27	45	17	—
Carliaes - - - - -	82	96	178	51	2
Millars - - - - -	71	75	146	50	2
Barnacle Point - - - - -	3	3	6	3	—
Fitches Creek - - - - -	94	95	189	74	2
Weirs - - - - -	30	30	60	16	6
High Point - - - - -	88	84	172	149	—
Date Hill - - - - -	19	21	40	12	—
Giles Blizards - - - - -	63	73	136	50	—
Judge Blizards - - - - -	88	74	162	50	1
Gravenors - - - - -	29	20	49	17	—
Nibbs - - - - -	39	48	87	25	—
Winthropes - - - - -	16	22	38	14	14
Paynters - - - - -	16	17	33	10	4
Gunthorpes - - - - -	26	22	48	9	—
TOTALS - - - - -	795	813	1,608	526	34

ANTIGUA.

No. 6—continued.—Population and Houses of the Estates in the several Parishes.

ST. PHILIP.	POPULATION.			HOUSES.	
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Occupied.	Unoccupied.
Rooms - - - - -	13	21	34	9	1
Parson Maule - - - - -	2	6	8	2	1
Collins - - - - -	25	19	44	9	2
Glanvilles - - - - -	14	8	22	7	—
Grants - - - - -	11	6	17	5	1
Sion Hill - - - - -	17	28	45	17	3
Mayers - - - - -	9	4	13	2	—
Retreat - - - - -	7	5	12	6	3
Comfort Hall - - - - -	9	11	20	7	1
Grays - - - - -	3	3	6	2	—
Wickhams - - - - -	11	10	21	2	1
Elliotts - - - - -	9	2	11	2	6
Long Lane - - - - -	57	40	97	33	4
Gaynors - - - - -	27	18	45	9	1
Elmes - - - - -	17	15	32	11	1
Gobles - - - - -	6	13	19	7	4
Lower Walronds - - - - -	9	16	25	12	—
Lions - - - - -	56	67	123	39	3
Lavingtons - - - - -	38	35	73	18	3
Ffrys - - - - -	37	40	77	19	—
Montpellier - - - - -	11	5	16	7	1
Archbolds and Browns - - - - -	35	31	66	12	4
Skeerats - - - - -	57	49	106	28	1
Colebrooks - - - - -	22	18	40	9	1
Upper Walronds - - - - -	11	16	27	8	4
Harmans - - - - -	35	44	99	23	—
Mannings - - - - -	4	2	6	2	—
Hope - - - - -	19	26	45	11	1
Watsons - - - - -	34	23	57	27	2
Lynches - - - - -	65	70	135	36	2
Sheriffs - - - - -	17	13	30	7	—
Mangrove - - - - -	6	4	10	1	1
TOTALS - - - - -	713	668	1,381	389	52
SAINT MARY.					
Ffrys - - - - -	85	82	167	33	—
Orange Valley - - - - -	13	10	23	5	—
Picarts - - - - -	20	24	44	7	—
Cades Bay - - - - -	107	124	231	66	—
Brooks - - - - -	9	9	18	8	—
Tramontania - - - - -	10	—	10	1	—
Claremont - - - - -	14	13	27	3	—
Russels - - - - -	9	8	17	5	—
Sago Hill - - - - -	8	15	23	3	—
Sawcolts - - - - -	4	9	13	2	—
Tom Moores - - - - -	2	7	9	2	—
Green Castle - - - - -	53	58	111	22	—
Rigbys - - - - -	10	8	18	5	—
Monteros - - - - -	17	27	44	9	—
Smiths - - - - -	18	17	35	11	—
Scaforths - - - - -	20	19	39	12	—
Hermitage - - - - -	33	29	62	15	—
Blubber Valley - - - - -	43	42	85	23	—
Dennings - - - - -	11	13	24	5	—
Jelly Hill - - - - -	41	28	69	16	—
Willocks - - - - -	2	4	6	1	—
Dark Valley - - - - -	28	20	48	11	—
Yorks - - - - -	76	65	142	34	—
New Division - - - - -	37	38	75	15	—
TOTALS - - - - -	670	670	1,340	314	—

# STATE OF HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS. 77

No. 6.—continued.—Population and Houses of the Estates in the several Parishes.

ANTIGUA.

SAINT PAUL.	POPULATION.			HOUSES.	
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Occupied.	Unoccupied.
Elises	43	38	81	21	3
Bodkins	11	7	18	5	1
Burkes	49	38	87	20	1
Cochranes	11	8	19	6	—
Delaps	39	44	83	22	—
Folly	3	3	6	1	—
Larcaches	30	25	55	17	—
Lucas	17	17	34	12	—
Mathews	15	22	37	15	4
Morris Loobys	40	57	97	28	2
Pattersons	11	8	19	7	—
Richmonds	12	18	30	7	—
Thomas	9	13	22	4	1
Tyrrells	13	15	28	6	—
Willis	33	30	63	20	—
Uncultivated Estates	—	—	—	—	—
Rendezvous Bay	5	5	10	1	—
Buckshorns	2	5	7	1	—
Barbers	—	—	—	—	2
Dimsdale	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	343	333	696	193	14

No. 7.—POPULATION in the several PARISHES, according to the CENSUS of 1844, of 1851, and of 1856.

NAME OF PARISH.	POPULATION, CENSUS 1844.			POPULATION, CENSUS 1851.			POPULATION, CENSUS 1856.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Saint John	6,884	8,560	15,444	7,768	9,077	16,845	6,853	8,442	15,295
Saint Mary	2,113	2,234	4,347	2,084	2,151	4,235	2,013	2,124	4,137
Saint Paul	2,016	2,478	4,494	2,457	2,697	5,154	1,994	2,396	4,390
Saint Philip	1,921	2,136	4,057	1,896	1,989	3,885	1,926	2,033	3,959
Saint Peter	2,006	2,185	4,191	2,000	2,043	4,043	1,885	1,932	3,817
Saint George	1,782	1,863	3,645	1,411	1,523	2,934	1,951	1,857	3,808
TOTALS	16,722	16,456	33,178	17,616	19,320	37,136	16,624	18,784	35,408

No. 8.—ABSTRACT OF REGISTRY of BIRTHS and DEATHS for Period from 1st AUGUST to 31st DECEMBER 1856.

PARISH.	No. of Births.	LEGITIMATE.		ILLEGITIMATE.		COMPLEXION.			No. of Deaths.	AGE.		UNDER 14 & OVER 1 YEAR.	1 YEAR & OVER.	COMPLEXION.				
		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Black.	White.	Coloured.		Males.	Females.			Males.	Females.	Black.	White.	Coloured.
Saint John	189	42	49	52	46	79	50	60	362	114	124	20	17	47	40	237	27	106
Saint Mary	55	18	15	9	13	32	10	6	54	9	12	1	1	12	12	42	2	6
Saint Paul	49	8	9	11	21	38	8	5	75	20	30	2	2	11	20	62	4	9
Saint Philip	66	10	6	11	11	23	12	3	68	12	23	6	7	7	4	58	12	9
Saint Peter	45	10	12	11	12	12	30	8	69	20	21	8	8	6	10	42	2	12
Saint George	37	5	9	10	13	12	8	11	61	12	17	7	2	11	8	44	2	13
TOTALS	413	93	100	104	116	216	106	21	689	157	224	45	33	24	24	486	45	158

ANTIGUA.

No. 9.—CLASSIFICATION OF CAUSES OF DEATH for Period from 1st AUGUST to 31st DECEMBER 1856.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	No. OF DEATHS.	ADULTS.		UNDER 14 AND OVER 1 YEAR.		1 YEAR AND UNDER.		COMPLEXION.		
		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Black.	White.	Coloured.
I.—SPECIFIED CAUSES.—A. GENERAL DISEASES.										
Zymotic (Epidemic, Endemic, or Contagious) -	73	26	14	5	9	11	8	49	7	17
B. SPORADIC DISEASES, SUCH AS,										
Dropsy, Cancer, and other Diseases of uncertain or variable seat -	37	13	15	5	1	—	3	22	4	11
Tubercular Diseases -	16	9	4	1	—	—	2	12	—	4
Diseases of the Brain, Spinal Marrow, Nerves, and Senses -	51	18	12	5	2	6	8	37	2	12
Diseases of the Heart and Blood-vessels -	15	7	7	—	1	—	—	10	—	5
Diseases of the Lungs and other Organs of Respiration -	96	25	41	8	3	6	13	72	6	18
Diseases of the Stomach, Liver, and other Organs of Digestion -	144	43	30	14	13	26	18	98	16	30
Diseases of the Kidneys -	5	3	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	3
Childbirth, Diseases of the Womb, &c.	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Rheumatism, Diseases of the Bones, Joints, &c. -	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	1
Diseases of the Skin, Cellular Tissue, &c.	17	10	5	1	1	—	—	14	1	2
Premature Birth and Debility -	27	4	3	3	1	7	9	19	1	7
Atrophy -	5	—	2	1	—	—	2	3	—	2
Age -	93	26	67	—	—	—	—	74	2	17
Sudden -	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	—	—
Violence, Privation, Poison, Intemperance, &c. -	5	3	2	—	—	—	—	5	—	—
Still-born -	54	—	—	—	—	27	27	39	1	14
II.—CAUSES NOT SPECIFIED -	43	9	14	1	4	11	4	25	5	13
TOTALS -	689	197	224	45	35	94	94	486	45	158

No. 10.—NUMBER OF BAPTISMS AND BURIALS for the Year ending 31st DECEMBER 1856; distinguishing those before and after the 1st of August.

	BAPTISMS.		BURIALS.	
	To 1st August.	Since 1st August.	To 1st August.	Since 1st August.
CHURCH OF ENGLAND :				
Saint John's -	219	120	263	241
Saint George -	44	21	33	33
Saint Peter -	44	25	37	38
Saint Philip -	71	31	24	29
Saint Paul -	26	29	20	19
Saint Mary -	78	15	17	13
All Saints -	40	18	20	10
CHURCH OF UNITED BRETHREN :				
Saint John's -	14	7	37	37
Grace Hill -	22	7	19	20
Grace Bay -	13	4	8	12
New Field -	12	7	17	10
Cedar Hall -	26	13	22	20
Lebanon -	17	6	12	12
Grace Field -	11	3	6	11
Green Bay -	14	9	10	7
Five Islands -	4	4	4	6
WESLEYAN :				
Saint John's -	10	7	16	13
Parham (St. Peter) -	11	6	21	15
Freemantle -	1	2	—	—
Freetown (St. Philip) -	4	—	3	11
Sion Hill -	6	4	3	9
Eng. Harbor (St. Paul's) -	2	1	1	3
Bethesda -	4	3	7	3
Sawcoits -	1	—	—	—
PRESBYTERIAN :				
Saint John's -	2	—	—	—
TOTALS -	696	342	601	572

## MONTSERRAT.

MONTSERRAT.

No. 18.

No. 18.

COPY of a DESPATCH from GOVERNOR HAMILTON to the Right Honourable  
H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(Montserrat, No. 31.)

Leeward Islands, Antigua,

May 9, 1857.

(Received June 2, 1857.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book of Montserrat for the year 1856, with a Despatch of the President, in which he forwarded the same to me.

No. 16,  
30th March 1857.  
Enclosure 1.

2. In the month of September in the year 1855, a new system of taxation was adopted by the legislature of Montserrat, but did not come into operation till July in 1856. Three quarters of a year having since run out, I have endeavoured to ascertain the success of the new system, the main feature of which is the abolition of import duties, and the imposition of a land tax in lieu of other taxation.

3. The system of taxation in force at Montserrat is one which admits of no expansion of income from prosperity or other causes, bears hard in adversity, and, being fixed, leaves no margin for contingencies.

4. It has been sought to arrange the civil establishment so as to exactly adjust its expenditure to the estimated revenue; and, there being no means of defraying incidental charges, the expense attending the trial of a man for murder has been cited as contributing to the present embarrassment.

5. But indeed the revenue has not proved adequate to the support of the ordinary civil establishment; for it is a mistake to attribute the deficiency of revenue to the circumstance that the new system did not come into operation at the commencement of the year. In a Despatch to me dated 13th September 1856, the President stated that, owing to the non-arrival of the Order in Council in time to save the first instalment of the Land Tax Act, made payable between the 1st and 10th March, the Treasury suffered the apparent loss of about 870*l.*, but was actually the gainer to the extent of about 78*l.*; for the Imports and Exports were continued till the publication in the Islands of Her Majesty's assent to the repeal of the Tariff Act, and the duties received amounted to a trifle over 1,015*l.* Deducting therefore the cost of collection, the net amount received was 948*l.*, exceeding by 78*l.* the first instalment of the Land Tax Act averaged at 870*l.*

6. The correspondence I append will shew the state of the contending parties and the difficulty of the government in inducing the assembly to raise an adequate revenue.

7. The original error committed in Montserrat was the abandonment of the accustomed taxation, and the introduction of direct taxation on land, without the certainty of its producing a revenue equal to the required expenditure.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) KER B. HAMILTON.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.,  
&c. &c. &c.

Governor Hamilton to President Rushworth, No. 5,  
24th March 1857.

Enclosure 2.

Ditto, ditto,  
No. 7, April 8.

Enclosure 3.

President Rushworth to Governor Hamilton, Nos. 20, 22, and 23, of 14th, 15th, and 16th April.

Enclosures 4, 5, and 6.

Governor Hamilton to President Rushworth, No. 8,  
April 27, 1857.

Enclosure 7.

Enclosure 1 in No. 18.

Encl. 1 in No. 18.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Mr. President RUSHWORTH to GOVERNOR HAMILTON.

(No. 16, Executive.)

SIR,

Montserrat, March 30, 1857.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book for the year 1856, and to submit the following remarks with reference to the statistics and general condition of the island for that period.

MONTSERRAT.

2. The annexed comparative statement of imports and exports exhibits a very considerable increase in the estimated value of the former; while owing to a shorter crop of sugar in 1856 than in 1855 the return shows a decrease under the head of the latter.

The estimated value of Imports in 1855 being	-	-	£	s.	d.
1856	-	-	-	-	-
Showing an excess in the "past year of"	-	-	-	-	-
That of Exports in 1855 -	-	-	-	-	-
1856	-	-	-	-	-
Shewing a decrease of	-	-	-	-	-
			£	s.	d.
			7,704	1	11
			13,984	10	6
			6,280	8	7
			19,986	2	0
			17,613	8	0
			2,372	14	0

3. The return of the Imports in the past year shows that the advantages of an increased trade anticipated by the supporters of the abolition of all customs duties, and the imposition in lieu thereof of a direct tax on houses and land, have been fully realized.

The following comparative statement will show the articles upon which the chief increase has been made in the past year:—

Articles.	1855.			1856.		
	Quantity.	Value.		Quantity.	Value.	
		£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Meal - - -	Barrels 47 -	54	0 0	Barrels 550 -	550	0 0
	cas. cwt. qr. lbs.					
Fish, dried -	53 565 1 19	565	13 0	1,384 2 6 -	1,026	9 0
" pickled -	Barrels 601 -	419	0 0	773 0 12 -	433	0 0
Flour - - -	Barrels 331 -	735	10 0	Barrels 717 -	1,448	0 0
Lumber - -	37,860 feet -	168	17 0	83,837 feet -	369	10 0
Merchandise -	- - -	3,245	13 1	- - -	6,164	6 0

4. The trade of the island has been relieved from the customs duties only for the period of five months in the past year, the Royal assent to the Act repealing the late Tariff Act having been received on the 30th July. Time, therefore, has not yet been afforded for giving the experiment either a fair or adequate trial.

The above statement, exhibiting the articles on which the greatest advance has been made, bears out the opinion held by the supporters of the recent fiscal measures, that the rural population of the island would largely benefit by an unrestricted freedom of intercourse with the neighbouring communities; and I further may add that I likewise adhere to my opinion, that the industrious planter will by the change enjoy equal, if not greater, advantages. With regard also to the policy generally of this mode of taxation, under the existing circumstances of the island, I entirely coincide with the views expressed by my predecessor in his report on the Blue Book for the year 1854, "that the necessary revenue, at that time raised in five distinct modes, viz., import duties, export duties, tonnage duties, property tax, and liquor licenses, might be raised by two simple and inexpensive means, viz., a direct property tax upon all houses and lands and by trade licenses. The taxation would be borne by the same classes as at present, but from the simplicity of the process and the abolition of imports and exports, and consequently of the staff connected with the collection of these and the various other duties, the expenditure of the island might be reduced by nearly one-half."

5. That the new system has had to undergo a very severe ordeal from its very commencement no one can deny, and whether it will be allowed time sufficient for its full development it is impossible at present to speak with any certainty, owing, I may observe, solely to the extreme tenacity with which its opponents in the Assembly have resisted every proposition for the adjustment of the public expenditure to a scale commensurate with the altered position of the Revenue.

On this subject I will only add that I trust, for the sake of the true interests of the island, that the supporters of these measures in the Legislature will not be discouraged on account of the obstacles with which they have as yet been met; for it was evident from the very date of these measures receiving the sanction of the Legislature, that these difficulties would have to be encountered, and must be overcome to ensure a successful working of the system.



Turning again to the report already referred to, written indeed by my predecessor only a few months before the change in the fiscal arrangements of the island was introduced by myself to the notice of the Assembly, he thus remarks upon the opposition that may be expected against any proposition of this nature.

"It is unnecessary, however, to dwell further upon the details of such a scheme, as I fear that any measure for effecting such a change would meet with the strenuous opposition of the House of Assembly, constituted as that branch of the Legislature is at present; besides, in a small community such as this, vested interests and established usages concur so strongly, that when any general reduction or improvement is attempted, the crippled finances and cloud of compensations to be afforded scare away all change."

The advocates of the recent changes in our financial policy may consider that they gained a considerable stride in influencing in their favour the majority of the then existing General Assembly, and whose legislation (the results of the last general election proved) was also viewed with satisfaction and approbation by the greater part of the community at large.

6. The following statement, showing the Export of Sugar in the past year, exhibits a falling off in quantity of about 195 hogsheads when contrasted with that exported in the year previous.

YEAR.	SUGAR.			
	Hogsheads.	Tierces.	Barrels.	Equal to average sized Hogshead.
Exported in				
1855 - - - -	767	261	222	968
1856 - - - -	600	225	184	773

Decrease in 1856 - - 195 hogsheads.

In the year 1855 the Colonial Secretary estimated the value of the hogshead at 17*l.* sterling; for the past year that officer has estimated the value of the hogshead at 20*l.*, the tierce at 11*l.*, and the barrel at 2*l.* 10*s.*

7. According to the returns in the Blue Book the net amount of the general revenue for the year 1856 is stated at - - - - - 2,674 12 0

And the expenditure at - - - - - 2,069 19 8

With a balance in the Treasury of - - - - - 4 12 4

£2,674 12 0

The above statement solely, however, sets forth the actual receipts and payments of the Treasurer in the year, but does not exhibit the financial condition of the colony for 1856.

8. To gain this object it will be necessary to separate the items of revenue and expenditure belonging to 1855 from those of 1856.

The cash in the Treasury on the 1st January 1856 was 23*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.*, and the arrears of revenue belonging to 1855, but collected in 1856, were 118*l.* 8*s.* 1*d.*, amounting together to 354*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*

On the other hand the arrears of expenditure in 1855 amounted to 403*l.* 15*s.* 7½*d.*, leaving a deficiency of that year to be made good in 1856 of 49*l.* 2*s.* 1½*d.*

The Treasurer also, among the receipts in aid of revenue, takes credit for 203*l.* 6*s.* 0½*d.* on account of advances made in the first instance from the Treasury to meet the default of certain loan borrowers on the 1st May, but afterwards refunded by the Loan Commissioners (which sum is charged in the account of public expenditure, being included in the 1,010*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.* as paid from the Treasury to these Commissioners).

Deducting, therefore, the above sums of 354*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* and 203*l.* 6*s.* 0½*d.*, together 557*l.* 19*s.* 6½*d.*, from the gross amount of net revenue 2,674*l.* 12*s.* 0*d.*, the remainder 2,116*l.* 12*s.* 5½*d.* was the actual amount of taxes, duties, and incidental revenue raised in 1856.

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And deducting also this aggregate sum of 557*l.* 19*s.* 6½*d.* from the gross amount of expenditure (2,663*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.*), the remainder 2,112*l.* 0*s.* 1½*d.* was the amount expended in defraying the charges of the Government in 1856, and this sum, with the balance in the Treasurer's hands on the 31st December (4*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.*) will be found to correspond exactly with the actual amount of revenue raised in the year, viz. 2,116*l.* 12*s.* 5½*d.*

9. The following items composed the revenue of 1856.

	£	s.	d.
Import duty - - - - -	617	4	2
Export duty - - - - -	398	0	3
Liquor license - - - - -	20	0	0
Property tax - - - - -	870	12	4½
Boats' and porters' licenses - - - - -	2	2	8
Fines, penalties, and forfeitures - - - - -	30	15	0
Rent of Fort Barrington - - - - -	4	8	10
Third instalment of the purchase of certain estates sold under the Loan Act - - - - -	173	9	2
	<hr/> £2,116 12 5½		

And the following statement shows the details of the expenditure.

	£	s.	d.
Arrears of 1855 - - - - -	49	2	1½
Civil establishment - - - - -	728	4	3
Loan Commissioners - - - - -	807	3	9½
Poor establishment - - - - -	447	19	4½
Jail and penal gang - - - - -	59	0	0
Quarantine and Board of Health - - - - -	8	9	0
Town wardens and care of courthouse - - - - -	16	11	0
Hire of vessel to Antigua - - - - -	4	6	4
Preparing and serving property tax accounts - - - - -	6	6	0
Drawback - - - - -	4	18	3
Balance in Treasurer's hands - - - - -	4	12	4
	<hr/> £2,116 12 5½		

The following Returns will show the amount of liabilities outstanding on the 31st December 1856. Return No. 1. includes claims, payment of which was authorized by existing statutes.

## No. 1.

	£	s.	d.
Due to officers of the civil establishment to the 30th September -	128	18	11
" Ecclesiastical to the 30th September -	51	18	10½
" Judicial to the 31st December -	70	6	3
" Loan Commissioners to the 31st December -	15	0	0
" Poor establishment - - - - -	24	15	2
Expenses connected with the trial of the convict Howson, executed for murder on the 4th December - - - - -	58	11	8
Contingent expenses to the 30th September - - - - -	47	4	8½
Balance on Loan account - - - - -	18	7	10
	<hr/> £415 3 5		

Return No. 2 includes outstanding debts, for the payment of which no authority had been given by the Legislature up to the 31st December; or even, indeed, has been given up to the date of this report.

## No. 2.

	£	s.	d.
Civil Establishment for the Quarter ended the 31st December, computed according to the rate of salaries and allowances hitherto enjoyed - - - - -	186	19	0½
Miscellaneous Account - - - - -	56	5	4
	<hr/> £243 4 5½		

In the early part of the year the House of Assembly did make one attempt to supply the deficiency of revenue occasioned by the loss of the first instalment of the Property Tax, the Royal Assent to that Act and the one repealing the late Tariff Act not having arrived in time to allow of its collection. The second legislation being, however, based on the same principles as the Acts then awaiting Her Majesty's pleasure, was deemed inadmissible. The differences

that afterwards arose in the Legislature on the question of the future salaries of certain of the public officers, increased still farther the difficulties in the adjustment of the expenditure to the revenue, and to which I have already alluded in the former part of my report.

As no definite agreement could be arrived at during the year, the whole of these liabilities have now to be borne by the revenue raised in the present year, which, without considerable additional provision, will be insufficient to defray the cost of the Government. The longer the delay on the part of the Legislature in the settlement of this question (still under discussion), so much the heavier will be the burdens that of necessity will have to be imposed on the community for the liquidation of this excess of expenditure over the annual revenue of the island.

The first moiety of the Property Tax for the current year 1857 having now been received, all the outstanding claims to the 31st December, set forth in the above return, marked No. 1, payable under legislative authority, and with which the Executive alone have power to deal, have been discharged, with the exception of the contingent expenses to the 30th September, amounting to 47*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.*; this account, though audited by the Committee of Public Accounts, has not yet been passed by the Legislature, and their assent is required before an order can be issued for the payment by the Executive.

10. The system that has been pursued in this island for some years in providing for the officers employed in the public service, is, in my opinion, most objectionable; with the exception of the Chief Justice and Queen's Counsel provided for by the Judicial Act, and the Loan Commissioners by the Loan Act, all the Civil Servants have been dependent on quarterly resolutions of the Legislature. Among other evils attendant on this state of things, the two following, I consider, the most prominent: the interests of all these officers being combined in the passing of this resolution, their united influence has ever been found sufficient to render all attempts nugatory for consolidating the Civil Establishment within limits proportionate to the wants and finances of the island.

In the next place, the revenues being inadequate to meet the charges, the regular payment of the salaries in cash on quarter day has seldom ever happened in this island. The custom that has for years prevailed, has been for the officer administering the Government, as soon as the quarterly resolution has been passed by the Legislature, to issue warrants to be delivered by the treasurer to every claimant on the Treasury; these the parties have, for their own support and maintenance, to negotiate either with the shopkeepers or others engaged in this paper traffic, at very ruinous discount; indeed I have been informed, that calculating the rate of discount for the number of days for which the accommodation has been sought, some of the officers have at times been deducted of nearly cent. per cent. on their orders.

While the officers are thus sustaining a loss on their reputed incomes, the treasury is not placed in a more solvent condition, as these warrants have to be received back at par when the taxes become payable. The only parties, therefore, who are the gainers, are those engaged in this traffic of buying and selling treasury paper, and whose interest it is to depreciate to the lowest point this description of paper money, and whose custom it is, to rise in their demands, at all times most exorbitant, in exact proportion to the necessities of the parties who are forced to seek the accommodation.

11. The adjustment of the Civil List occupied the undivided attention of the Legislature during the entire of the last year, without, however, any profitable results. In the month of October an Act was passed for the payment, to the 30th of September, of all salaries and allowances at the rates hitherto enjoyed, and the same, as I have before observed, have been liquidated out of the instalment of the Property Tax received during the present month.

A resolution was passed at the end of last September by the House of Assembly, and concurred in by the Legislative Council, that the reduction in the Civil List should take date from the 1st of October, but no measure has yet been agreed on.

12. An intimation has been made by the Executive to the Legislature, that the establishment should now be placed on a permanent footing, and adequate provision made so that the salaries in future be regularly and quarterly met.

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I have further informed the Council, as well as the House of Assembly, that henceforth no order will on any account be issued to the treasurer for payments at a future period: at the present date no warrant is outstanding, and this description of paper money is extinct in the island.

A compliance by the Legislature with the first recommendation, and a rigid observance of the latter by the Executive will, I trust, tend to the correction of some of the evils I have thought it necessary to dwell on in explanation of the financial condition of the island.

13. Notwithstanding the many difficulties of the past year, the Executive, I am glad to say, have been able to continue the system of defraying monthly the poor expenditure, as well as the cost of the maintenance of the prisoners in the gaol: had the Government been forced back on the old ruinous system of contracting for these services, the expenses would have been more than doubled, and the pressure on the Treasury at this time increased in like proportion.

14. The annual instalment and interest due on the loan from Her Majesty's Government has been fully discharged. In the latter part of the past year an examination into the position of the account between Her Majesty's Government and this island was made by the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, and some slight discrepancies were discovered in the amount of the remittances stated to have been made from time to time from the island, and those received at the Treasury: these discrepancies, it has been presumed, must have arisen from the costs and charges incurred in the negotiation of the bills of exchange, generally drawn in this island at 90 days' sight, and at present are under inquiry. The amount, however, claimed by the Treasury (18*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.*) has been remitted, and the accounts are satisfactorily closed, as far as the past is concerned.

The subject of this loan, and the mode pursued in the application of the proceeds, has been so frequently and at so great length treated on by my predecessors in their annual reports, that any general statement now made could only be a recapitulation of the several facts and opinions already recorded thereon. I will only, therefore, remark, that with regard to the future, I fear the island will have, for many years to come, to suffer from the mismanagement of the moneys lent to assist the proprietors, in compliance with their urgent entreaties, after the earthquake in 1843, but appropriated indeed to far different purposes than those intended by Her Majesty's Government at the time when they so liberally responded to the application.

15. The island has continued healthy during the past year: the rural population have been also quiet, contented, and orderly. Their condition may be said to be one of great comfort; and, although they do not enjoy so high a rate of wages as in the neighbouring communities, yet they are allowed very extensive privileges in the cultivation of provision grounds, and the rearing of stock on the estates on which they give their labour. Many of them are thereby enabled to accumulate and lay by a little store of money, and with these savings I am glad to find that there is a very general disposition among this class to purchase small portions of land and erect dwelling houses thereon; as I am confident that by thus becoming attached to the soil, and obtaining a permanent interest in the island, the inducement to emigrate to the larger islands in the expectation of bettering their condition on account of their labour commanding elsewhere a higher rate of pecuniary remuneration will be proportionably lessened. From this system of emigration the proprietary body are represented to have suffered very considerably in former years, and it has been of late feared that a repetition of the same might be expected, owing to the stimulus given to cultivation on account of the recent rise in the price of all West Indian produce in the European and American markets.

16. On the subject of the state of crime and offences for the year 1856, with the exception of one offence of an atrocious and flagrant nature, from which the island had been happily exempt for a long series of years, there does not appear by the report of the stipendiary magistrate to have been any considerable increase of crime during the past year in comparison with the former ones; and though the convictions of petty offences are rather more numerous on the face of the official returns, they are not of that importance as to require any special notice.

The circumstances attendant on the case to which allusion has been made, were these:—

An old African negro, named Providence Daly, having been solicited by the son of a black man, named Richard Howsen, with whom the negro lived, and on whose premises he was allowed to cultivate a spot of land, to join in the larceny of a sheep, refused, and the son committed the offence alone.

On legal proceedings being instituted by the owner of the sheep, the negro was the principal witness, and the son was committed for trial.

Before, however, the period arrived for holding the courts, Richard Howsen the father, either out of revenge or to prevent the negro's evidence being given on the trial, caused Daly's death by the administration of arsenic concealed in a roasted potato.

The guilt of Richard Howsen was clearly established on the trial, and being condemned, the murderer suffered the extreme penalty of the law. Previous to this there had not been an execution in this island for thirty-five years.

17. The stipendiary magistrate again, in his report this year, expresses his regret that the magistrates are not armed with a discretionary power of pronouncing sentences of hard labour in many of the frequently recurring offences, which greatly tend to increase the amount of complaints adjudicated by the justices, and there is no doubt that good results would follow from the adoption of the suggestion. In this respect the laws of the island are both faulty and imperfect, and their revision is greatly needed.

18. The mode also of paying the constables for their services is most objectionable, and tends very considerably to increase one class of convictions, viz., "for abusive and provoking language tending to a breach of the peace," the hearing and investigation of which offence occupies almost the undivided attention of the justices at each sitting. The constables receive no fixed salary, but receive remuneration on each warrant; the greater therefore the number of cases, so much the more profitable this office. The necessary consequence is, that in nine cases out of ten, the parties themselves would mutually arrange their differences, but for the active and officious interference of these constables. The remedy is very simple, all that is required being the power of appointment, by the Executive, of a small number of constables with fixed salaries. The subject I have brought repeatedly under the notice of the members of both branches of the Legislature, who all acknowledge the evil, but as yet they have not been equal to the exertion of applying the remedy.

19. Before concluding my report, a few observations will not, I consider, be inapplicable on the existing condition and state of the representative institutions of the island, as the several evils which have been pointed out, must through their agency be either fully remedied or materially improved.

20. The population of the island taken by the last census in 1851 consisted of 3,149 males, and 3,894 females, in all 7,043 souls, and I believe no very material difference in this number exists between that date and the present period.

21. The present constitution of the island consists of the Officer administering the Government, a Legislative Council, and a House of Assembly.

The Legislative Council consists of seven Members; one, however, the Bishop of the Diocese, is non-resident.

The House of Assembly is composed of twelve Members.

22. The following statement will show the number of districts into which the island is divided, the number of Members returned by each district, with the number of voters at the last general election, held in October 1855:—

Name of Electoral Division.	Number of Representatives.	Number of Voters at last General Election.
Towns of Plymouth and Kinsale - -	4	99
Parish of St. Anthony - - -	2	107
Parish of St. Peter - - -	2	96
Parish of St. George - - -	2	72
Parish of St. Patrick - - -	2	26
	12	400

23. There is no legislative enactment relating to the Assembly, either creating the body, defining its number, or fixing its duration; nor is there any law

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regulating the franchise, nor any registration of electors. The Legislature is at any period of the year convened by summons from the Executive.

24. That this constitution can be amended, and a more simple and compact form of government substituted in its stead, few unprejudiced persons will, I think, be found, even in the island, to deny; but hitherto the obstacles interposed have been more than sufficient to prevent the accomplishment of even any modification in the existing machinery, too cumbrous indeed for the work that it should, but does not, perform, and too expensive for the scanty means available for its proper support.

25. The sound policy of its revision has been frequently urged on the attention of all interested by those invested with the chief authority in this command, and has, moreover, been admitted by large and frequent majorities in both Houses; but an unfortunate fatality seems to have attended all their efforts in actual legislation, which, on this very question, has from time to time been under their consideration for a period exceeding twenty years.

26. On reference to the journals of the Legislative Council, I find that so far back as the year 1836 that body forwarded a petition to His Majesty, setting forth the condition of the legislative business of the colony, and stating, among other matters, "that the sum of 7,000*l.* gold and silver money was due on the 1st of January in that year, to the public creditors, and that there were no ways "and means to extricate the colony from its difficulties, and praying that a "Lieutenant-Governor and Councillors may be appointed to carry on the public "and legislative business, and that the new mode now proposed was the only "alternative for saving the colony from utter ruin and destruction."

In the year 1845, on the 18th April, the state of the representative institutions of the island was taken into consideration by the House of Assembly, and at the meeting held on that day the House passed resolutions reporting, among other matters, "That great injury was sustained by all classes of the community "from the very slow and imperfect manner in which the legislative business of "the island was conducted, arising chiefly from the continued absence of a "large proportion of the landed proprietors, and the marked disinclination of "those resident to fill seats in the Assembly; and that the only remedy for the "various evils was to be found by abolishing the functions of the House of "Assembly of this island, and in a legislative as well as judicial union with the "important and prosperous island of Antigua; and the concurrence of the "Council was requested to join with them in a memorial to the Governor-in-Chief to that effect." The Board of Council, in agreeing to the proposition of the Assembly, placed the following resolutions on their records on the 15th August of that year.

Resolved: "That, looking forward to the proffered improvement of our "judicial system, this Board are of opinion that it would be thwarted in its "operation by a continuance of the present legislative form, a system deprecated unanimously by this Board since the year 1836, when a memorial was "forwarded to the Right Honourable the Secretary for the Colonies, setting "forth the advantage that would accrue to the colony by abrogating the charter, "and being governed by orders in Council." "That the remedy which presents itself to rescue the colony from its present degraded system is either a "favourable acquiescence in the prayer of that memorial, or a legislative and "judicial union with the Government of Antigua."

In the year 1847 both branches of the Legislature returned to the same subject, and the Governor-in-Chief being at that time in the island, a joint letter was addressed to him by the President of the Legislative Council and the Speaker of the House of Assembly, enclosing the resolutions passed by the Assembly and concurred in by the Council, recommending a legislative union and incorporation with the island of Antigua.

Of the advantages that Montserrat would derive from that union, Governor Higginson has left his opinion on record in his Despatch accompanying the Blue Book of Montserrat for the year 1847:—

"A legislative and more intimate union with Antigua would, in my opinion, "as I have previously stated, confer essential advantages on Montserrat, and "might perhaps rescue her from the ruin with which she is threatened; but I "have now much reason to fear that the proposition which has been made by

"the Legislature of Montserrat to that of Antigua with a view to effect such an incorporation will not be entertained by the latter Colony."

In the year 1848, when the Assembly found that there was no longer any hope of the Government of Antigua acceding to the proposition for a Legislative union and complete incorporation with that island, they again passed resolutions for transmission to the Home Government, stating "that the House having taken into its serious consideration the unhappy position of the island, with a large and rapidly increasing public debt, a declining revenue, and an unremunerative and retrograding agriculture, and an impoverished population is again constrained to declare its inability longer to provide for the present costly, cumbrous, and inefficient Government establishment, and that the only measure by which it appears to this House relief can be afforded is by Her Majesty's Government substituting a Council of Government (to be part elective) in place of the present House of Assembly and Board of Council, and by the Imperial Government assisting in the payment of salaries, which it is impossible the resources of the Colony can longer meet, as at present fixed."

In the year 1852 a measure was at length perfected by the Legislature for altering its constitution by the union in one body of the Council and Assembly.

Of the necessity of this measure the late Captain Booth, then administering the Government of the island, thus speaks in his report accompanying the Blue Book of that year:—

"This latter Act must be regarded, should it receive Her most Gracious Majesty's assent, as highly important to the interests of the island, for not only is the community of small extent, but the number of educated persons composing it so limited, that under the present system legislators have to be sought among those who can but barely read or write."

This Act very unfortunately being defective in three points, affecting the Royal Prerogative, was returned for amendment by the Home Government. A new Bill was again introduced in the following year, but its supporters were left in a minority in the Assembly, and the measure fell to the ground. Since that time there has been no inclination manifested in the Lower House to resume the consideration of the subject.

27. That a measure similar in principle to the one now in operation in another Presidency within this command, the Virgin Islands, would prove beneficial, I have no doubt; the subject, indeed, has been discussed a good deal recently without the Legislature. Owing, however, to its unpopularity among the bulk of the electors, no member of the Assembly has up to this period been found willing to take upon himself either its introduction, or even boldly to advocate the sound policy of its adoption.

28. At the same time my opinion entirely coincides with that expressed by Governor Higginson, that, if possible to be effected, a legislative union and complete incorporation with Antigua would prove the most beneficial of all measures yet advanced for the true interests and permanent welfare of the island of Montserrat.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD E. RUSHWORTH.

His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief,

&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 2 in No. 18.

Encl. 2 in No. 18.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor HAMILTON to Mr. President  
RUSHWORTH.

(Montserrat, No. 5.)

SIR,

Government House, Antigua, March 24, 1857.

NOT having lately heard from you on the subject of the financial condition of Montserrat, I request you will report to me thereon, and furnish me with a statement of any public debt due and unpaid to the 31st December last.

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2. I request you will be so good as to furnish me with statements of the actual revenue and expenditure for the years 1855 and 1856, and comparative statement of the revenue of those years. Also estimate of revenue and expenditure of the current year, and a return of the reductions in the civil establishment since the year 1848.

3. I enclose a statement made to me by a merchant interested in the island, respecting the assessment of estates for taxation, and request to know whether the same is correct or in what particular inaccurate, and that you will send me a report in a tabular form, shewing the valuation of estates on the tax roll; amount for which any such estate has been sold within the last four years; amount of taxation at per cent on value; amount of per-centage on fee simple valuation as per sales, paid yearly for taxes. Also population and rate of taxation showing on how many persons the Land Tax is levied, how many persons pay the same, and in what proportions, and how many persons remain untaxed.

4. Referring to the minutes of the assembly forwarded to me in your Despatch No. 12, of the 28th ultimo, I wish to be informed whether the Assembly has persisted in refusing or neglecting to consider the question of raising a sufficient revenue, and what was the cause of no business being done after the introduction of the resolutions moved by Mr. Chambers, and seconded by Mr. Hill.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) KER B. HAMILTON,  
Governor-in-Chief.His Honour the President administering  
the Government, Montserrat.

Encl. 3 in No. 18.

Enclosure 3 in No. 18.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor HAMILTON to Mr. President RUSHWORTH.  
(Montserrat, No. 7.)

SIR,

Antigua, Government House, April 8, 1857.

I HAVE received your Despatch, No. 16, of the 30th ultimo, reporting on the Blue Book for the year 1856, and I shall have much pleasure in submitting your interesting remarks to the consideration of the Secretary of State.

2. In order to give a fair trial to the system of direct taxation lately introduced in Montserrat, it will be necessary that the revenue and expenditure should be equalized.

3. I observed from the Minutes of the Assembly, that your proposal of increased taxation to fulfil this object is continually met by the statement that you represented, at a former time, that in your opinion no further taxation would be necessary. But it should be considered by the Assembly that your estimate was formed on a basis of reduction, which could not be fully carried out, and the Act introducing the new system did not come into operation so soon as you anticipated.

4. I hope, therefore, that on your making known to the Assembly the actual amount required to provide for the arrears of, and maintain, the Civil Establishment, the House will no longer defer to make the necessary provision.

5. If a revision of the value of real estate for taxation be desired, that may be done by equitable legislation.

6. The introduction of trade licenses, as suggested by your predecessor and referred to by you, is worthy of the consideration of the Council and Assembly.

7. You are at liberty to communicate this Despatch or any part of it to the Assembly.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) KER B. HAMILTON,  
Governor-in-Chief.His Honour the President administering  
the Government, Montserrat.



Enclosure 4 in No. 18.

MONTSEERAT.

Encl. 4 in No. 18.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Mr. President RUSHWORTH to Governor  
HAMILTON.

(No. 20, Financial.)

St. J. Montserrat, April 14, 1857.

I, in transmitting the several accompanying Returns prepared for the purpose of showing in full detail the past transactions relating to the Revenue and Expenditure of the island in the years 1855 and 1856, as also the actual position of the public accounts for the present year, I trust that the following statement, together with the observations contained in my Report forwarded with the Blue Book for 1856, will furnish all the information on the financial condition of Montserrat, that your Excellency has called for in your Despatch No. 5, dated the 24th ultimo.

2. The Returns marked Nos. 1, 2, 3, contain the particulars of the Revenue and Expenditure for the years 1855 and 1856, as also a comparative view of the position of the public accounts of those years. The amount of all the public liabilities due and unpaid to the 31st December 1856 is placed at the foot of the financial statement of that year.

3. On the 1st January 1855, the position of the revenue stood thus: cash in the public chest, 111*l.* 11*s.* 9½*d.*; arrears of revenue belonging to 1854, but not paid in at that date, 158*l.* 14*s.* 8½*d.*, together amounting to the sum of 270*l.* 6*s.* 6½*d.*

On the other hand the liabilities due and unpaid to the 31st December 1854 amounted to 882*l.* 7*s.* 4½*d.*; of this aggregate sum, 664*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.* was due on account of salaries to the Civil servants of the crown, the remainder 217*l.* 18*s.* 6½*d.* being for miscellaneous expenses.

Deducting, therefore, the amount of cash in the treasurer's hands and the amount of outstanding revenue uncollected on the 31st December 1854, from the gross amount of the liabilities due and unpaid at that date, the public debt on the 1st January 1855 was 612*l.* 0*s.* 10½*d.*

4. The total amount of revenue for the year 1855, was 3,348*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.*; this amount includes 118*l.* 8*s.* 1*d.* outstanding on the 31st December, 1855, but received in 1856.

The following are the chief sources from which the above sum was derived: import duty, 885*l.* 10*s.* 2½*d.*; export duty, 554*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.*; and Property Tax, 1,074*l.* 4*s.* 6½*d.*; this latter tax was raised by a rate of three-quarters per cent. upon the value of all real property in the island.

5. The total expenditure was 3,397*l.* 13*s.* 0½*d.*; this sum, however, includes the debt of 1854, amounting to 612*l.* 0*s.* 10½*d.*; deducting, therefore, the arrears of expenditure of 1854, the actual expenditure of 1855 may be taken at 2,785*l.* 13*s.* 1¾*d.*

6. On the 31st December 1855, the cash in the public chest was 296*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.*, and there were arrears of revenue outstanding to the amount of 118*l.* 8*s.* 1*d.*, in all 354*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*

7. The public liabilities due and unpaid to the 31st December 1855 amounted to 408*l.* 15*s.* 7½*d.*, of which sum 308*l.* 9*s.* 2½*d.* was due on account of official salaries, and the remainder for miscellaneous expenses: these arrears remained unliquidated till the month of September last, when the Act for their settlement finally passed the Legislature.

8. Taking, however, the revenue and expenditure of the island to the close of the year 1855, the actual deficit on the settlement of the public accounts up to that period was 49*l.* 2*s.* 1½*d.*

9. The actual amount of revenue raised in 1856 was 2,116*l.* 12*s.* 5½*d.*; the following were the principal items of revenue, import duty 617*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.*, export duty 398*l.* 0*s.* 3*d.*, property tax 870*l.* 12*s.* 4½*d.*. The latter tax was raised under an Act passed in 1855 for levying a rate of one and a quarter per cent. upon the value of real property in the country, and three-quarters per cent. on the value of real property in the town, and its duration was fixed for three years from the date of its passing the Legislature. The Royal assent not arriving till the 30th of July 1856, the first moiety payable in the month of March was lost to the public treasury, and the second instalment payable in August but postponed to September by an Act of the Legislature was alone received.

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11. The actual expenditure, or rather I should say the amount disbursed from the Treasury, was 2,112*l.* 0*s.* 1½*d.*, leaving in the public chest on the 31st December last the sum of 4*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.* The amount of public liabilities due to the 31st December last was 658*l.* 7*s.* 10½*d.*; of this aggregate amount 180*l.* 17*s.* 9½*d.* was due to the civil establishment on account of their salaries to the 30th September 1856, under the authority of an Act of the Legislature passed in the month of October, 85*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.* was due to the officers on the judicial establishment and the Loan Commissioners for their salaries for the quarter ended the 31st December, whose salaries are secure by permanent Acts, 18*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.* for balance stated by the Lords of the Treasury to be due on an examination of the loan accounts, 186*l.* 16*s.* 11½*d.* on account of miscellaneous expenditure, and the remainder 186*l.* 19*s.* 11½*d.* on account of the civil establishment for the quarter ended the 31st December. This item has been computed according to the rate of salaries and allowances hitherto enjoyed, but has not been sanctioned or provided for by the Legislature.

Deducting, therefore, the cash in the chest on the 31st December, 4*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.*, from the total amount of liabilities due and unpaid to that period, 658*l.* 7*s.* 10½*d.*, the actual deficit on the year may be taken at 653*l.* 15*s.* 6½*d.*

12. Before entering on the estimate of revenue and expenditure for the current year, I have a few observations to make on the loss sustained by the revenue on account of the differences in the Legislature on the amount of the salaries to be paid to the civil officers in this Government. It is not my intention to enter into any discussion on these dissensions, but simply to point out the injury occasioned thereby to the finances of the island.

In the first place the Act imposing liquor licences was suffered to expire without renewal, and the loss upon this item to the revenue may be estimated at not less than 100*l.*

In the next place, certain encumbered estates in the hands of the Loan Commissioners were left valueless and unprofitable during the whole year, owing solely to the want of an Act of the Legislature, empowering the Commissioners to offer them at public sale. The proceeds that may be expected from these properties (assumed by the Treasurer as part of the revenue of 1857, in his estimate of revenue and expenditure for the current year), may, I have been given to understand, be calculated at 293*l.*

In the third place, the first moiety of the property tax remained uncollected, owing to the reasons already stated. This may be calculated at about 870*l.*

The three items would have given a revenue of 1,263*l.*, which, after discharging the entire debt of 653*l.* 15*s.* 6½*d.*, would have left a surplus available for the present year of upwards of 600*l.*

But, without laying too great a weight of taxation on the island, had the Legislature, after the receipt of the Royal assent to the late fiscal measures, perfected a bill in accordance with the principle of the one passed in the Assembly in the month of March, of reimposing the lapsed instalment and returning to the proprietary body the amounts severally paid by them for export duty, the sum of 472*l.* would have been raised; and this lesser amount, with the two first items above alluded to, would have liquidated the deficit and left 200*l.* over, which might have been carried to the credit of the present year.

In the past year the miscellaneous expenditure of the island was increased by the expenses attendant on the trial and execution of a criminal convicted of murder; this unforeseen contingency cost the colony 72*l.* sterling.

13. I will now proceed to the estimate of the revenue and expenditure for the current year, and I will in the first place consider the accounts of 1857 entirely apart from the debt left unpaid at the close of 1856.

14. The statement has been prepared by the Treasurer, and your Excellency will perceive that the fixed Revenue is calculated at 1,980*l.* A further sum of 405*l.* 10*s.* is taken into the account as disposable for the services of the year; this amount is composed of two items, 112*l.* 10*s.* for liquor licenses, (the Bill for their imposition having never gone through all its stages in the House of Assembly), and 293*l.* as the proceeds to be derived from the sale of certain encumbered estates under the Loan Act, (the Bill giving authority for their sale has not yet been introduced in the lower branch of the Legislature.)

These items when combined will give a revenue of 2,385*l.* 10*s.*; on the other hand the expenditure has been reckoned at 2,461*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*

I must here remark that in this estimate the cost of the civil establishment has been computed at the former rates and allowances, which the Assembly up to this period have not shown any disposition to accord.

Taking, however, the figures as they stand in the accompanying statement, a deficit of 75*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* may be expected when the revenue and expenditure of 1857 come to be adjusted at the close of the year.

To this assumed deficit of 75*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* I will now add the actual deficiency at the close of 1856, 633*l.* 15*s.* 6½*d.*, in all 709*l.* 6*s.* 0½*d.*, and this sum will be the probable amount of deficiency at the close of 1857, should no provision be made during the year for its liquidation by the legislature.

15. Of the probable conduct of the representatives of the people when assembled in their legislative chambers, it is, I have from experience found, impossible to speak with any degree of accuracy, even a few seconds before the actual moment of their entering on the public business of the day; and in consequence of this extreme uncertainty of their behaviour I have been reluctant for some time to express to your Excellency any conjectures or expectations of my own, even though I may have formed them from the most positive assurances made to me personally by members of that body.

I may observe, however, that the differences on the settlement of the Civil List are still, as they have been all along, the real obstacles to the adjustment of the finances, and until that question is finally disposed of I entertain no hope of any definite action being taken by the Assembly for the discharge of the present debt.

As soon as the salaries of the officers have been placed on a fixed and permanent basis, if any credit is to be attached to the declarations made on the subject, I believe I may state to your Excellency that the debt will be discharged by recourse to an additional levy on real property at a per-centage somewhat less than the amount the proprietary body would have paid, had the Royal assent to the Tax Act arrived in time to admit of its collection in March 1856.

16. When, however, fair consideration is given to the circumstance, that the lost moiety of the Property Tax in the past year would, had it been re-imposed, more than covered every outstanding liability due the 31st December last, and if now levied will even more than suffice for the estimated demands on the Treasury to the close of the present year, I cannot, provided the legislature deal fairly and promptly with the present exigencies of the public service, join in that cry of alarm and despondency that has been expressed on the financial condition of Montserrat.

17. In Return marked No. 5, I transmit a tabular statement showing the expenditure, both Imperial and Colonial, for the civil establishment of the island in the year 1848, as well as the cost under both heads at the present period, together with the savings that have accrued both to the Imperial and Local Governments during that interval.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDW. E. RUSHWORTH.

His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief,

&c. &c. &c.

## MONTSERRAT.

## Sub-Enclosure 1 to Enclosure 4 in No. 18.

## STATEMENT of the REVENUE and EXPENDITURE of the ISLAND of MONTSERRAT for the Year 1855.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Import and export duty	1,440	4	11½				Public debt of 1854, paid in full	-	-	-	612	0	10½
Fines, penalties, and forfeitures	47	19	5½				Civil establishment	759	16	4			
Liquor license	89	0	0				Judicial	281	5	0			
Tonnage duty	29	10	0				Ecclesiastical	207	15	6			
Porters' license	1	18	8				Road	12	3	2½			
Property tax	1,074	4	8½				Poor	399	7	0½			
Proceeds of seizures	4	2	6				Miscellaneous expenditure	115	17	5½			
Payments by Loan Commissioners	378	18	0				Public grant	50	0	0			
Loan deposit fund transferred to general revenue	20	9	10½				Tonnage duty refunded	0	7	6			
Sale of loan encumbered estates	181	14	10				Jail and penal gang	40	8	11			
Outstanding revenue	118	8	1				Loan account	921	1	2			
							Care of court house	4	10	0			
Excess of expenditure (after the payment in full of all arrears of the previous year)	-	-	-	49	2	1½					2,785	12	1½
				3,307	13	0½					3,307	13	0½

## Sub-Enclosure 2 to Enclosure 4 in No. 18.

## STATEMENT of the REVENUE and EXPENDITURE of the ISLAND of MONTSERRAT for the Year 1856.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Import duty for seven months	617	4	2				Arrears of 1855 paid in 1856	-	-	-	49	2	1½
Export duty ditto	298	0	5				Civil establishment	692	15	10			
Liquor license	29	0	0				Ecclesiastical ditto	307	14	0			
Property tax	879	12	4½				Judicial ditto	280	16	0			
Boats' and porters' licenses	2	2	8				Poor ditto	472	14	6½			
Fines, penalties, and forfeitures	30	15	0				Loan account	825	11	7½			
Rent of Fort Barrington	4	8	10				Jail	39	0	0			
Third instalment for purchase money of Paradise, &c.	175	9	2				Town wardens and other miscellaneous expenses	40	10	7			
Total revenue for 1856				2,116	12	5½	Grant to Dr. Ledwith, and hire of a vessel	58	11	8			
Excess of expenditure over revenue	-	-	-	655	15	6½	Contingent expenses adjusted by committee	105	10	1½			
				2,770	8	0	Total expenditure				2,721	5	10½
											2,770	6	0

## RETURN of Public Debts due and unpaid to 31st December 1856.

	£	s.	d.
Ecclesiastical establishment	103	17	9
Civil ditto	271	2	10
Judicial ditto	76	2	8
Poor ditto	24	15	2
Loan	18	7	10
Dr. Ledwith and Wyke Committee	58	11	8
	103	10	1½
	658	7	10½

## Sub-Enclosure 3 to Enclosure 4 in No. 18.

MONTSEERAT.

## COMPARATIVE RETURN.

REVENUE for 1855 and 1856.

	Received in 1855.	Received in 1856.	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Import and export duty -	1,440 4 11½	1,015 4 5	- - -	425 0 6½	Duty repealed in July 1856.
Fines, penalties, and for- feitures - - -	52 1 11½	30 15 0	- - -	21 6 11½	
Liquor license - - -	60 0 0	20 0 0	- - -	40 0 0	Act imposing duty expired in June 1856.
Tonnage duty Act - - -	20 10 0	- - -	- - -	20 10 0	Tonnage duty Act repealed in 1856.
Porters' license - - -	1 18 8	2 2 8	0 4 0	- - -	
Property tax - - -	1,074 4 6½	870 12 4½	- - -	203 12 1½	The first instalment of the Land Tax, 1856, was not received in consequence of the Tax Act not having been confirmed until after the date fixed for the pay- ment of such instalment.
Payments made by Loan Commissioners - - -	378 18 0	- - -	- - -	378 18 0	Repayments made by the Loan Commissioners into the public treasury on ac- count of advance made to meet the deficit of certain private borrowers.
Loan deposit fund, trans- ferred to general revenue -	20 9 10½	- - -	- - -	20 9 10½	
Sale of loan encumbered estates - - -	161 14 10	173 9 2	- - -	8 5 8	
Outstanding revenue - - -	118 8 1	- - -	- - -	118 8 1	
Rent of Fort Barrington -	- - -	4 8 10	4 8 10	- - -	
	3,548 10 11	2,116 12 5½	4 12 10	1,236 11 3½	

## Sub-Enclosure 4 in Enclosure 4 in No. 18.

ESTIMATE of the REVENUE and EXPENDITURE of the Colony of MONTSEERAT for the Year 1857.

FIXED REVENUE.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	EXPENDITURE.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Property tax - - -		1,760	0	0				Judicial establishment, viz.: Chief Justice, 1800; Queen's Counsel, 1210; 5s. - - - - -		201	5	0			
Fines, penalties, and forfeitures - - -		30	0	0				Ecclesiastical establishment: one rector - - - -		207	15	6			
Final instalment for Paradise		170	0	0	1,960	0	0	Civil establishment, viz.: Secretary and Treasurer, 2100; Marshal, 1200; Clerk of Assembly, 1000; Loan Commissioners, 60; Coroners, 270; Sergeant-at-Arms, 120; Gaoler, 300; stationery, &c. -		567	0	0			
Total fixed revenue -								Poor establishment - - -		420	0	0			
ESTIMATED.								Gaol expenses - - -		40	0	0			
Liquor license - - -		112	10	0				Government loan - -		810	0	0			
Sale of loan encumbered estates, viz.:—								Four wardens, quarantine, &c. - - - - -		75	0	0			
Gerald's (if sold free from all taxes for three years)		100	0	0				Miscellaneous expenditure		60	0	0			
Mr. Miller's lot - - -		100	0	0				Total estimated expenditure					2,461	0	6
Lot of J. Dobridge - -		6	0	0				Public debt of 1856 - -		-	-	-	433	15	6
Cove - - - - -		35	0	0									3,114	16	0
Morris's - - - - -		25	0	0											
Barks - - - - -		12	0	0											
Mr. Carpenter's lot -		15	0	0											
Total estimated revenue					405	10	0								
A tax of 5s. 4d. per cent. on land will give - -		-	-	-	728	0	0								
					3,115	10	0								

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Sub-Enclosure 5 in Enclosure 4 in No. 18.

RETURN of the POPULATION of the ISLAND of MONTSERRAT, taken by the last CENSUS in 1851.

	Males.					Females.					Total Females.	Grand Total.
	St. Anthony.	St. George.	St. Peter.	St. Patrick.	Towns.	St. Anthony.	St. George.	St. Peter.	St. Patrick.	Towns.		
Under 16 years of age -	465	323	438	167	246	1,543	473	334	394	201	1,713	---
Between 16 and 45 -	202	133	160	111	122	872	206	272	289	166	971	1,460
Between 45 and 60 -	144	142	142	730	52	521	174	135	143	35	75	600
Above 60 - - -	49	15	34	11	14	113	52	20	43	12	44	161
						3,142					3,604	7,053
Number of tax-payers in the parish of St. Anthony -	23					18					41,438	
Do do ditto ditto St. George -	19					22					78	
Do do ditto ditto St. Peter -	62					147					185	
Do do ditto ditto St. Patrick -	20					134					110	
Ditto for towns - - -	147					321					41,748	
						321					6,739 untaxed.	
											7,053	

Sub-Enclosure 6 in Enclosure 4 in No. 18.

No. 1.

RETURN of SUGAR ESTATES and LOTS of LAND SOLD under the PROPERTY TAX ACT.

Property.	Year.	Nature of Estate.	Cultivated, or otherwise.	Value in Levy Bill Sterling.	Tax Sterling.	Amount sold for Sterling.
Gerrald's Estate	1854	Sugar Estate	Uncultivated -	£ 2 2 4	£ 2 2 4	£ 2 2 4
Silver Hill	"	Pasture Estate	Do do	3,100 0 0	23 5 0	25 0 0
				200 0 0	1 10 0	0 10 6
Morris's	1855	Corn Estate	Cultivated -	444 0 0	3 2 7	4 1 0
Hell's Gate	"	Pasture Estate	Uncultivated -	154 0 0	1 3 2	1 2 4
West Hill	"	Provision ground	Cultivated -	75 0 0	0 11 2	4 5 0
A lot of land	1852	Provision ground	Uncultivated -	50 0 0	0 6 3	0 7 2
*Gerrald's Estate	1857	Sugar Estate	Uncultivated -	3,100 0 0	12 7 2	10 0 0
*Banks	"	Pasture Estate	Cultivated -	323 0 0	1 0 7 1/2	1 0 0
*Morris's	"	Corn Estate	Uncultivated -	444 0 0	3 15 2	2 0 0
*Cove	"	Corn, Cotton, Estate	Cultivated -	444 0 0	2 15 6	2 0 0
Silver Hill	"	Past. & Estate	Uncultivated -	200 0 0	1 3 0	1 1 0

\* Properties purchased by the Loan Commissioners, but charged with large amounts of loan.  
Note.—No properties sold by virtue of private executions between the years 1854 and 1857.

Sub-Enclosure 7 in Enclosure 4 in No. 18.

No. 2.

RETURN of HOUSES and UNBUILT PORTIONS of LAND in the TOWN of PLYMOUTH sold under the PROPERTY TAX ACT.

Nature of Property.	Year.	Value in Tax Bill.	Amount of Tax.	Amount sold for.
Unbuilt portion of land - - - - -	1853	£ 44 0 0	£ 0 6 7	£ 4 5 0
Unbuilt portion of land - - - - -	1856	50 0 0	0 3 9	20 0 0
*Unbuilt portion of land - - - - -	1857	30 0 0	0 2 2	0 6 6
House and land - - - - -	"	244 0 0	0 18 3 1/2	1 0 0
†Unbuilt portion of land - - - - -	"	50 0 0	0 6 8	20 5 0

\* Purchased by the Loan Commissioners.

† Properties sold by consent of owners.

Note.—No real property sold by virtue of private executions between the years 1854 and 1857.

Enclosure 5 in No. 18.

MONTserrat

COPY of a DESPATCH from Mr. President RUSHWORTH to Governor HAMILTON.

Encl. 5 in No. 18.

(No. 22, Executive.)

Sir,

Montserrat, April 15, 1857.

1. HAVING at the commencement of this year, whilst perusing the journals of the House of Assembly, had my attention drawn to a tabular statement framed in the year 1848, for the purpose of contrasting the number of official appointments in the island with that of the population, and also the cost of the government expenditure with the gross value of the productions, I have on the receipt of your Excellency's late Despatch No. 5, of the 23rd ultimo, used my best endeavours to arrive at the accuracy and real nature of the observations and deductions placed on these official records, and as the statement contained in the recent communication of your Excellency is based on a like principle, I have had a return prepared for the year 1857, in a similar shape to the one laid before the Assembly in 1848.

2. I annex also the two returns specified by your Excellency respecting the assessment of the land tax on the estates, and the rate of taxation in proportion to the population. To these I have added some further particulars which may be of interest to your Excellency so far as they regard the present actual position of a large portion of the proprietary body in the island.

3. As some of the deductions made from the returns prepared in 1848, and embodied in the document laid in that year before the Assembly, as also in the statement recently made to your Excellency, are based on the number of persons contained in the Marshal's Jury List, who are asserted to represent all the males between the ages of 21 and 65, who are capable of reading and writing throughout the island, I have made particular inquiry as to the accuracy of that remark.

The Marshal, whose duty it is to summon the jurors, has informed me that such conclusions are drawn from very insufficient data, and that it has always been his custom to summon the most intelligent persons between the ages specified in the Jury Act, but the qualification of reading and writing does not at all guide him in the selection.

4. The mode of raising a large portion of the revenue of the island, by a tax on real property, has been in operation for many years. From the information I have been enabled to gather on this subject, it was the custom previous to the abolition of slavery, to raise, among other imposts, a tax upon the proprietary body according to the number of slaves attached to each estate, and this system continued in force until the year 1835.

5. In 1836, a valuation was made by the Legislature on all real property, to supply the place of the old poll tax on the slaves, and at that period I learn the valuation of the different estates was chiefly based on the amounts that they had formerly paid under the old system when rated in accordance to the number of their slaves.

6. This valuation has remained in force with, I believe, but little modification since 1836, and the last Property Tax Act was framed on that basis.

7. That many of the properties, like those mentioned in the statement annexed by your Excellency, are now assessed beyond their actual value, there is no doubt.

This especially is the case where estates have been dismantled and allowed to go out of sugar cultivation, the rates now laid upon them being quite disproportionate to their actual worth.

Looking to the condition of these properties, I consider a valuation most desirable, not only as an act of fairness to the present occupants, but also as a measure of general utility to the island, for I think it probable where a deduction is made in their estimated values for the purpose of taxation, with the present price of West India produce, parties might be found willing to enter on their cultivation.

8. Shortly after my arrival, my attention was directed to the mode of assessment in the island, and wishing if possible to arrive at the true percentage, which would on a re-valuation be necessary to be imposed on the actual value of the real property so as to give the same amount of revenue as then derived by the tax of three quarters per cent. on the estimated value in

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the Levy Bill, I appointed a committee to consider the best mode of revising the valuation made in 1836, but no disposition was evinced to enter at all upon the subject, and the matter has remained in abeyance till the present period.

9. With respect to estates in actual sugar cultivation, it has been observed to me that the difference between the rate at which they stand assessed in the Levy Bill, and their actual value, is not so very great, regard being had to the existing state of the sugar market. Upon this point it is hard to arrive at any very accurate data. The only mode I know of testing the question is by taking the price of sugar in 1836, when the valuation was fixed; for at that period I should imagine some reference must have been given to the value and quantity of the produce that could be derived from each estate, and the price of that article, the staple produce of these islands, at the present day.

At the foot of the Return, No. 3, your Excellency will perceive that the difference between the two periods is but slight.

In 1836 the price of Sugar from British plantations, exclusive of duty, appears from the "London Gazette" to be averaged that year as 40s. 10d. per cwt.; and in 1857 the Treasurer, by the latest commercial accounts from England, calculates the average price at 38s. per cwt. This last-named amount, from a set of tables I have before me, compiled from the "London Gazette," is higher, I find than any of the years preceding 1836, till I come to 1825, when the average price is set for that year at 38s. 6d. per cwt.

If a fair conclusion may be drawn from the above data, I do not consider that the holders of estates at present in sugar cultivation in this island are so arbitrarily taxed in these assessments as represented by the writer of the recent communication to your Excellency.

10. With a view of testing whether the recent change abolishing import and export duties, and increasing in their stead the amount of land tax from three-quarters to one and a quarter per cent., is really operating injuriously to the proprietary body engaged in sugar cultivation, I have had a table prepared, showing the land tax at three-quarters per cent. and the export duty charged on the several estates in 1835, and the amount now imposed for land tax in 1857, at one and a quarter per cent.

In directing your Excellency's attention to that return, marked No. 4, I would only remark that there is no sugar estate in the island the cultivation of which is not susceptible of vast improvement.

Had I been enabled to ascertain the amount of the import duty paid on the separate estates, I could then have placed the comparison in a clearer light.

11. With respect to the other points adverted to in the copy of the statement enclosed by your Excellency for my observations, I may remark that in my recent report on the general statistics of the island, I have already alluded to the absence of any law either regulating the franchise or enforcing the registration of electors. At the last general election, held in October 1853, four hundred votes were taken, but many of the voters exercised their privilege of voting in each of the five districts into which the island is divided.

The estimated number of freeholders for the year 1856 has been reckoned by the Marshal at 228.

12. Having, moreover, by this mail, entered fully into the financial condition of the island, I do not consider it necessary to occupy further your Excellency's attention by returning to the subject.

13. I have, in conclusion, to observe, that on a careful review of the annual reports made on the condition of the island for several years past, it appears that the decline of Montserrat, after the emancipation, was of a far more marked and decided character than that experienced in any of the neighbouring communities; and in the years 1846, 1847, and 1848 the adverse circumstances of the island appear in the strongest light. On reference to the report that accompanied the Blue Book of the island for 1847, each succeeding observation in that document is directed to note the downward tendency of the colony in all respects, financial, agricultural, and commercial, and there is appended to that report a return of the Provost-Marshal, showing the list of estates sold by him during the years 1845, 1846, and 1847, and these tables certainly depicted a state of such general insolvency that very naturally gave occasion for the doubt expressed by Governor Higginson, whether even an incorporation with Antigua would rescue Montserrat from the ruin with which she was threatened.



That a gradual improvement has been going on for some years is indisputable; and the present condition in 1857 is far different from that so strongly commented on in 1847, and as a contrast to the return of the Marshal in 1847, showing the levies made by him for taxes in that and the preceding two years, I may annex to this despatch a return made by the Marshal, giving like information from the year 1854 to the present period.

The estates sold during the last-named period are, with hardly an exception, those that have been thrown on the public owing to the default of private borrowers under the Loan Act. These several properties are now in the hands of the Loan Commissioners, and are awaiting an Act of the Legislature, so that authority may be given for their being offered for public sale.

The two last assessments of the Property Tax have been paid up without any occasion of resorting to the harsh measure of distraint, and the Marshal further reports that no properties have been sold by virtue of private execution between the years 1854 and 1857.

Notwithstanding, however, the advancement that has been made in the condition and prospects of the island, the same evils that have been remarked on so forcibly in former years are now also in existence; and where so large a portion of the landed proprietors are without capital sufficient for the proper cultivation of their estates, and further, without the means of obtaining it, the work of restoration to the state of prosperity, said to have been formerly enjoyed by the proprietary body of Montserrat, must be both gradual and slow; and many of the observations made by Governor Higginson in the year 1850 are still applicable, and many obstacles still have to be overcome before the valuable resources of the island can be said to be fairly developed and judiciously applied.

I have, &c.

His Excellency (Signed) EDW. E. RUSHWORTH.  
the Governor-in-Chief.

#### Sub-Enclosure 1 in Enclosure 5 in No. 18.

RETURN of all OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS held in MONTSERRAT, with the AMOUNT of SALARIES of other CHARGES for each OFFICE or DEPARTMENT, distinguishing the AMOUNT paid by the COLONY from that paid by the IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT, or otherwise, in STERLING MONEY.

Office or Department.	Number of Persons holding Official Appointments.	Amount paid by the Colony.		Amount paid by the Imperial Government.	Total Expenditure.
		Salaries.	Other Expenses.		
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Executive " " " " " "	2	—	75 11 11	544 8 10½	619 19 11½
Legislative Council " " " " "	7	—	—	—	—
Assembly " " " " " "	10	—	—	—	—
" Clerk and Sergeant-at-arms " " "	2	164 8 10½	—	—	164 8 10½
Judicial establishment " " " " "	4	350 0 0	4 8 10½	—	354 8 10½
Colonial Secretary, Clerk of Crown, and of the Council, and Registrar of Deeds " " "	1	200 0 0	—	—	200 0 0
Provost Marshal " " " " " "	1	200 0 0	—	—	200 0 0
Church establishment, including schools " " "	11	469 8 10½	64 17 9½	450 0 0	924 8 7½
Work-house and lunatic asylum " " "	9	40 0 0	444 8 10½	—	484 8 10½
Fort " " " " " "	9	40 0 0	8 17 9½	—	48 17 9½
Jail " " " " " "	9	80 10 10½	111 2 9½	—	191 10 1
Couriers " " " " " "	8	35 8 8	—	—	35 8 8
Medical officer " " " " " "	1	88 17 9½	—	—	88 17 9½
Customs, including collection of colonial tariff " " "	9	279 10 9½	—	358 15 5½	637 4 3
Post-office " " " " " "	1	—	11 9 9½	20 0 0	31 9 9½
Stipendiary Justice " " " " " "	1	—	—	450 0 0	450 0 0
Justices of the Peace, not holding other official appointments " " " " " "	5	—	—	—	—
Treasurer " " " " " "	1	173 6 8	4 8 10½	—	177 15 6½
Loan Commissioners, including interest " " "	3	990 0 0	150 0 0	—	1140 0 0
Clerk of the Magistrates " " " " " "	1	28 12 4	8 17 9	—	35 11 4
Master in Chancery " " " " " "	2	—	—	—	—
Public accounts " " " " " "	3	—	—	—	—
Constables " " " " " "	6	—	66 13 4	—	66 13 4
Miscellaneous expenses, not included in the above " " "	—	—	44 8 10½	—	44 8 10½
Casual Receiver " " " " " "	1	—	—	—	—
	77	2,369 9 10½	994 17 7½	1,835 9 4	5,207 5 10

NOTE.—The number of official appointments is 77; but in consequence of one individual holding two, and, in some cases three offices, the number actually employed is 89, of whom 45 are paid officers.

## MONTSERRAT

## DEDUCTIONS FROM THE FOREGOING TABLE.

There is one official for every 96 of the whole population.

There is one paid official for every 164 of the whole population.

The proportion of paid officials to all the males over 21 years of age who are capable of reading and writing is as 2 to 6.

The proportion of official appointments to the males as above is as 7 to 10.

The expense of the present Government establishment is 14s. 7d. per head of the whole population, of which 10s. sterling is raised in the Colony, and the remainder from other sources.

The expense of the Government of the Island is 5,354*l.* sterling, and is to the gross value of the whole production as 1 to 1'4.

The amount of the expense of the Government paid by the Colony is to the value of the whole production as 10 to 21'5, or nearly one half.

The half of the population of Montserrat is under 16 years, in Great Britain one-third.

## Sub-Enclosure 2 in Enclosure 5 in No. 18.

RETURN of all OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS held in MONTSERRAT, with the AMOUNT of SALARIES or other CHARGES for each OFFICE or DEPARTMENT, distinguishing the AMOUNT paid by the COLONY from that paid by the IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT, or otherwise.

Office or Department.	Number of Officers.	Number of Persons holding Official Appointments.	Amount paid by the Colony.		Amount paid by the Imperial Government.	Total Expenditure.
			Salaries.	Other Expenses.		
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Executive - - - - -	1	1	- - -	8 17 10	500 0 0	508 17 10
Legislative—						
Council - - - - -	-	6	—	—	—	—
Assembly - - - - -	-	12	—	—	—	—
Clerk and Sergeant-at-arms - - -	-	2	112 0 0	- - -	- - -	112 0 0
Judicial establishment - - -	3	3	221 5 0	- - -	- - -	221 5 0
Colonial Secretary, Clerk of the Crown and of the Council, Registrar of Deeds, Controller of Customs, and Treasurer - - -	6	1	210 0 0	- - -	- - -	210 0 0
Provost, Marshal - - - - -	1	1	120 0 0	- - -	- - -	120 0 0
Church establishment, including schools and schoolmasters - - -	10	10	227 8 10	- - -	23 0 0	250 8 10
Poor-house and lunatic asylum - -	3	3	50 0 0	250 0 0	- - -	470 0 0
Jail - - - - -	2	2	80 0 0	22 0 0	- - -	62 0 0
Coroners - - - - -	2	2	27 0 0	- - -	- - -	27 0 0
Post-office - - - - -	1	1	- - -	- - -	10 0 0	10 0 0
Stipendiary Justice - - - - -	1	1	- - -	- - -	450 0 0	450 0 0
Justices of the Peace (not holding other official appointments) - -	5	5	—	—	—	—
Masters in Chancery - - - - -	3	3	—	—	—	—
Local Commissioners - - - - -	-	3	60 0 0	- - -	- - -	60 0 0
Public notaries - - - - -	1	1	—	—	—	—
Constables - - - - -	10	10	—	—	—	—
	49	67	1,137 13 10	427 17 10	823 0 0	2,378 11 8

## DEDUCTIONS FROM RETURN No. 2.

There is one official for every 105 of the population.

There is one paid official for every 235 of the population.

The proportion of paid officials to all males over 21, who are capable of reading and writing, cannot be ascertained, the return of 1848 being evidently based on insufficient data.

The proportion of official appointments to the males, as above, cannot be ascertained.

The expense of the present establishment is 9s. 9*d.* per head, of which 7*s.* is raised from the colony, and the remainder from other sources.

The expense of the Government of the island is 3,443*l.*, and is less than one-fifth of the gross value of the whole productions.

The amount of the Government expenses paid by the colony is 2,450*l.*, and is less than 1*s.* 7*d.* of the gross value of the whole productions.

Nearly one-half of the population is under 16 years of age.

## Sub-Enclosure 3 in Enclosure 5 in No. 18.

RETURN showing the VALUATION OF ESTATES on the MONTSEERAT TAX ROLL, with the AMOUNT OF TAXATION at ONE and a QUARTER per CENT., specifying also such ESTATES as have been SOLD within the last FOUR YEARS, the AMOUNT realised at such SALES, and the AMOUNT OF THE PERCENTAGE ON THE SIMPLE VALUATION, as per SALE, paid yearly for TAXES.

Name of Estate.	No. of Acres.	How subdivided at present.	Valuation in Sterling.	Amount of Tax.	Sold within the last Four Years, Date of Sale.	By whom purchased.	Amount realised at Sale.	Amount of Earthquake Loan charged thereon.	Amount of Per-centage on Sum realised for yearly Taxes.	Remarks.							
			£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.								
Reed's Hill and Spring	350	Sugar	4,445	58	11	3	-	-	-								
Broderick's	300	Sugar	4,415	58	11	3	June 1855	Thos. Connell	1,400	0	0	NIL	3	19	4		
American's	200	Sugar	3,352	41	18	0	-	-	-	-	-	NIL	-	-	-		
Parson's	190	Sugar	3,110	38	17	6	-	-	-	-	-	100	0	0	-		
Dagnan's	200	Sugar	5,000	62	10	0	-	-	-	-	-	300	0	0	-		
Grove	90	Sugar	2,665	33	6	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Richmond	350	Sugar	3,968	49	11	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Plyer's	290	Sugar	2,665	33	6	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Bernaby's	572	Sugar	3,110	38	17	6	Aug. 1854	C. A. Chambers	81	0	0	630	0	0	5	9	4
Nugent's	150	Sugar	2,920	37	15	0	Nov. 1856	P. Burns	500	0	0	NIL	3	11	0		
Dalman's	250	Sugar	1,552	19	8	0	Feb. 1863	R. Piper	100	0	0	600	0	0	2	15	5
Syma and Lee's	356	Sugar	3,696	49	11	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Webb's	300	Sugar	2,665	33	6	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Wick's	300	Sugar	3,352	41	18	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Gage's	450	Sugar	3,110	38	17	6	Jan. 1856	W. E. Goodall	800	0	0	NIL	5	4	6		
St. George's Hill	276	Provision	220	2	15	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Blake's	600	Sugar	880	11	0	0	Sept. 1858	C. Griffin	38	0	0	450	0	0	2	6	0
Old Northward	175	Sugar	1,000	12	10	0	Oct. 1856	J. Andrews	350	0	0	229	0	0	2	3	8
Gerrald's	200	Uncultivated	3,110	38	15	0	-	-	-	-	-	440	0	0	-		
Sweeney's	150	Do.	330	4	2	6	-	-	-	-	-	265	0	0	-		
Barzay's	350	Sugar	2,264	28	6	0	1854	J. Yearwood	110	0	0	NIL	25	14	6		
Folly and Carr's Bay	350	Sugar	3,352	41	18	0	1854	R. Piper	210	0	0	NIL	19	19	0		
Lawyer's	1,500	Limes	2,000	25	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Needham's	500	Limes	3,352	41	18	0	1856	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Old Road	150	Sugar	3,110	38	17	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Waterwork	600	Sugar	3,110	38	17	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Tax River	-	Sugar	2,665	28	6	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
White's	180	Sugar	2,665	28	6	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Hermitage	1,500	Sugar	4,440	55	10	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

RETURN of the VALUATION of ESTATES, &amp;c.—continued.

Name of Estate.	No. of Acres.	How cultivated at present.	Valuation in Sterling.	Amount of Tax.	Sold within the last Four Years; Date of Sale.	By whom purchased.	Amount realized at Sale.	Amount of Earthquake Loan charged thereon.	Amount of Percentage on Sum realized for yearly Taxes.	Remarks.
Paradise - - -	300	Sugar	2,220	£ 27 15 0	1854 - -	E. Somper	£ 350 0 0	Nil.	£ 7 1 5	Sold under Loan En- cumbered Act, free from all liabilities.
Strentham's - -	600	Sugar	3,110	28 15 0	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	Nil.	- - -	- - -
Twitt's and Bethel's	500	Sugar	6,880	86 0 0	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	1,830 0 0	- - -	- - -
Harris - - - -	300	- - -	2,000	25 0 0	1855 - -	J. B. Somper	100 0 0	Nil.	25 0 0	Sold under Loan En- cumbered Act, free from all liabilities.
Farm - - - -	300	Sugar	3,352	41 18 0	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	Nil.	- - -	- - -
Trant's - - - -	800	Pasture	3,504	43 6 0	1854 - -	T. M. Hewes	27 0 0	Nil.	100 7 4	Sold for default of taxes, the property of a minor.
Bugby Hole - -	200	Do.	888	11 2 0	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
German's Bay -	150	Uncultivated	1,552	19 8 0	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Morris - - - -	200	Corn	444	5 11 0	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	223 0 0	- - -	In possession of Loan Commissioners.
Bushy Park - -	200	Corn	330	4 2 6	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	Nil.	- - -	Do.
Cox and Power's	800	Corn	534	6 13 6	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	150 0 0	- - -	- - -
Galloway's - -	300	Uncultivated	3,110	38 17 6	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	130 0 0	- - -	- - -
Fergus Mountains	250	Provision	500	6 5 0	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Roache's - - -	2,000	Sugar	5,330	66 12 6	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	500 0 0	- - -	- - -
Further Cove -	200	Uncultivated	444	5 11 0	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	Nil.	- - -	- - -
The Hope - - -	250	Provision	222	2 15 6	1856 - -	H. Palmer	100 0 0	Nil.	2 15 6	- - -
Duberry's - - -	200	Loaves	696	8 6 6	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	Nil.	- - -	- - -
Fogarty's - - -	200	Uncultivated	352	4 8 0	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	Nil.	- - -	- - -
Virgin Island -	30	Provisions	110	1 7 6	1856 - -	McAllen	12 0 0	Nil.	11 9 2	- - -
Baker Hill - -	185	Do.	444	5 11 0	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Banks - - - -	55	Do.	165	2 1 3	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Rendervous - -	100	Uncultivated	660	8 5 0	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Valentine Gut -	80	Do.	110	1 7 6	March 1857 -	- - - -	- - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Silver Hill - -	250	Do.	300	2 10 0	March 1857 -	IL M. Furledge	1 0 0	- - -	250 0 0	- - -
Old Quaws - -	150	Do.	154	1 18 6	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Ille's Gate - -	200	Do.	154	1 18 6	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Thatched Valley	100	Provisions	100	1 5 0	1854 - -	A. Sweeney	13 8 0	Nil.	- - -	- - -

The valuation of the above estates was fixed in the year 1856.

The average price of British plantation sugar in 1856 was (exclusive of duty) 40s. 10d. per cwt.

The average price of British plantation sugar at the date of this return is (exclusive of duty) 35s. per cwt.

## Sub-Enclosure 4 in Enclosure 5 in No. 18.

MONTserrat.

## RETURN OF TAXATION ON SUGAR ESTATES.

ESTATE.	Land Tax at $\frac{1}{2}$ of a pound per cent. paid in 1855.	Estimate of Export Duty.	Total.	Land Tax at 25 per cent. now imposed.
Reed's Hill and Spring - - -	£ s. d. 33 6 9	£ s. d. 8 0 0	£ s. d. 41 6 9	£ s. d. 61 6 0
Broderick's - - - - -	33 6 9	15 0 0	48 6 9	55 11 8
Amersham's - - - - -	25 2 9½	45 0 0	70 2 9½	41 18 0
Dagnam and Roache's - - -	77 9 6	84 0 0	161 9 6	129 2 6
Grove, Richmond, and Frye's - -	69 19 6	56 0 0	125 19 6	117 4 0
Bransby's - - - - -	23 6 6	6 0 0	29 6 6	38 17 6
Nugent's - - - - -	16 8 0	10 0 0	26 8 0	27 15 0
Balham's and Braid's - - -	36 14 7½	21 0 0	57 14 7½	61 6 0
Syns and Lee's - - - - -	29 19 4½	18 0 0	47 19 4½	49 19 10
Week's - - - - -	19 19 10	12 0 0	31 19 10	33 6 3
Webb's - - - - -	25 2 9½	15 0 0	40 2 9½	41 18 0
Gage's - - - - -	23 6 6	20 0 0	43 6 6	38 17 6
Blake's - - - - -	6 12 0	9 0 0	15 12 0	11 0 0
Old Northward - - - - -	7 10 0	5 0 0	12 10 0	12 0 0
Barzey's - - - - -	16 19 7	5 0 0	21 19 7	28 6 2
Needsmust - - - - -	25 2 9½	Nil	25 2 9½	41 18 0
Old Road, Waterwork, and Farm -	71 15 9½	18 0 0	89 15 9½	118 13 0
Tar River, White's Hermitage, Paradise, Strentham's, Farrell's, and Bugby Hole - - - - -	152 11 8	90 0 0	242 11 8	245 5 0
Taitt's and Bethel's - - - - -	51 12 0	36 0 0	87 12 0	86 0 0
Harris - - - - -	15 0 0	Nil	15 0 0	25 0 0
Trant's - - - - -	26 5 7	Nil	26 5 7	43 16 0
German's Bay - - - - -	11 12 10	Nil	11 12 10	19 8 0
Galway's - - - - -	23 6 6	3 0 0	29 6 6	38 17 6
Parson's - - - - -	23 6 6	23 0 0	46 6 6	38 17 6

MONTSEERAT.

## Sub-Enclosure 5 in Enclosure 3 in No. 18.

## MONTSEERAT.

RETURN of CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT paid from the IMPERIAL TREASURY in 1848. No. 1.				RETURN of CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT paid from the IMPERIAL TREASURY in 1857. No. 2.			
Office.	Salary from British Treasury.	Fees and Colonial Allowances.	Total.	Salary from British Treasury.	Fees and other Colonial Allowances received in 1856.	Remarks.	
President administering the Government - {	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	For Stationery.	
Stipendiary Magistrate for House Rent and {	500 0 0	118 Fees.	627 0 0	500 0 0	6 13 3		
Allowances - {	300 0 0	9 Stationery.	-	-	31 15 3½		
Postmaster - {	150 0 0	-	450 0 0	450 0 0	-		
Collector of Customs, vide Return No. {	20 0 0	-	20 0 0	20 0 0	-		
Allowances - {	300 0 0	51 9 8	351 9 8	-	-		
Clerk and Landing Waiter - {	150 0 0	-	150 0 0	-	-		
By Return in the Blue Book for 1848 the officiating Minister of St. George's re- ceived - {	50 0 0	-	-	970 0 0	38 8 6½		
With other allowances for fees, house rent, and portion of the stipend during the absence of the Rector, amounting to - {	-	181 6 8½	231 6 8½	RETURN of OFFICES in the CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT of MONTSEERAT, to which no Salary is attached, and not included in Returns No. 1 and 2.			
	1,470 0 0	359 16 4½	1,829 16 4½	Office.		Amount of Emoluments from Fees, &c.	
				Receiver-General of the Queen's Casual Exchequer -		Nil.	
				Judge-Surrogate of the Court of Vice Admiralty held by the Puisne Judge -		Nil.	
				3 Notaries Public -		-	
				2 Masters in Chancery, one received -		30k for fees.	

## MONTserrat—continued.

RETURN of CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT paid from the COLONIAL TREASURY in 1848.				RETURN of SALARIES and FEES according to the rates of 1836.			
No. 3.				No. 4.			
Office.	Total Salary.	How derived.		Total Salary.	How derived.		Remarks.
		Fees and other Emoluments.	From Colonial Treasury.		From Fees and other Emoluments.	From Colonial Treasury.	
Island Secretary	£ 246 0 0	£ 26 0 0	£ 200 0 0	£ 246 0 0	£ 26 0 0	£ 200 0 0	
Clerk of Crown, and Registrar of Deeds	£ 128 8 9	£ 33 0 0	£ 128 8 9	£ 128 8 9	£ 33 0 0	£ 128 8 9	
Treasurer	£ 233 0 0	£ 33 0 0	£ 200 0 0	£ 233 0 0	£ 33 0 0	£ 200 0 0	
Provost Marshal	£ 230 0 0	£ 12 6 8	£ 145 6 8	£ 230 0 0	£ 12 6 8	£ 145 6 8	
3 Loan Commissioners	£ 22 4 5	£ 22 4 5	£ 22 4 5	£ 22 4 5	£ 22 4 5	£ 22 4 5	
Clerk of Assembly	£ 29 6 8	£ 29 6 8	£ 29 6 8	£ 29 6 8	£ 29 6 8	£ 29 6 8	
Clerk of Magistrate	£ 51 9 8	£ 51 9 8	£ 51 9 8	£ 51 9 8	£ 51 9 8	£ 51 9 8	
Captain Gunner of Fort Barrington	£ 156 4 8	£ 156 4 8	£ 156 4 8	£ 156 4 8	£ 156 4 8	£ 156 4 8	
Collector of Customs—See Return No. 1	£ 126 0 0	£ 126 0 0	£ 126 0 0	£ 126 0 0	£ 126 0 0	£ 126 0 0	
Chief Justice	£ 150 0 0	£ 150 0 0	£ 150 0 0	£ 150 0 0	£ 150 0 0	£ 150 0 0	
Puisne Justice	£ 150 0 0	£ 150 0 0	£ 150 0 0	£ 150 0 0	£ 150 0 0	£ 150 0 0	
Attorney General	£ 33 7 0	£ 33 7 0	£ 33 7 0	£ 33 7 0	£ 33 7 0	£ 33 7 0	
Queen's Counsel	£ 352 4 4	£ 352 4 4	£ 352 4 4	£ 352 4 4	£ 352 4 4	£ 352 4 4	
Two Coroners	£ 277 15 6	£ 277 15 6	£ 277 15 6	£ 277 15 6	£ 277 15 6	£ 277 15 6	
Rector of St. Anthony and St. Patrick	£ 29 6 8	£ 29 6 8	£ 29 6 8	£ 29 6 8	£ 29 6 8	£ 29 6 8	
Rector of St. Peter's	£ 60 0 0	£ 60 0 0	£ 60 0 0	£ 60 0 0	£ 60 0 0	£ 60 0 0	
House rent for Minister of St. George's	£ 2,569 4 10	£ 341 4 8	£ 2,079 9 10	£ 2,569 4 10	£ 341 4 8	£ 2,079 9 10	
Parish Clerks							

Held by one officer since 1854.

Abolished.

Abolished.

Abolished.

Performed by Stipendiary Magistrate gratuitously.

Abolished.

Vacant and unprovided for.

Unprovided for.

Abolished.

MONTSEERAT.

Encl. 6 in No. 18.

Enclosure 6 in No. 18.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Mr. President RUSHWORTH to Governor  
HAMILTON.

(No. 23, Legislative.)

SIR,

Montserrat, April 16, 1857.

1. As I have in my separate despatches, Nos. 20 and 22, replied to your Excellency's recent inquiries upon the state of the finances, and on the present mode of assessment of the property tax on real estate in this island, so I now consider it better for arrangement and clearness to answer the remaining portion of your Excellency's despatch with regard to the proceedings of the House of Assembly in this present communication that accompanies the copies of the Minutes of both branches of the Legislature at their meeting, held on the 7th inst.

2. In the first place, with respect to the action of the Assembly in the matter of providing a sufficient revenue, I regret to say that no disposition has yet been evinced in making any provision for the liquidation of the debt due the 31st December; and I fear that it only remains for me to repeat the observations already communicated to your Excellency, that until the question of the salaries of the public officers is disposed of, there is but little hope of any real attempt being made on this head by the Assembly.

3. With regard to the other portions of your Excellency's inquiry, as to the cause of no business being done after the introduction of certain resolutions at the meeting of the Assembly on the 20th February last, I have ascertained from one of the members who was present at the meeting, and who took an active part in the proceedings, that after the appointment of Committees for adjusting the public accounts and reporting on the financial condition of the island, almost the whole remainder of the sitting was occupied in a discussion upon the insertion in the Levy Bill of the names of several parties who, either by omission from the schedule when the Act was passed in 1853, had thus accidentally escaped the impost, or having purchased freeholds since that date had rendered themselves liable for the extent of land, of which they are now in possession. The discussion on this point having continued some time, and no chance appearing of any definite action being come to thereon, two of the members left the House, and only seven members, the exact quorum, were left in the Chamber. The resolutions were then brought forward, and the parties who were in their favour having at that moment a majority in the House hoped to have gone at once to a division; this being resisted, no other result was gained than the prolongation of an unprofitable discussion till the meeting broke up.

4. In the interval between the 20th of February and the 7th of this month (although the Legislature had been twice summoned), no meeting could be formed in the Assembly in consequence of the members of that body not attending on either occasion in sufficient number to form a quorum.

5. However, during that period the Committee appointed from both branches of the Legislature for examining and reporting upon the financial condition of the island had met and prepared their report, which your Excellency will find at length in the proceedings of the Legislature accompanying this despatch.

As the majority of that Committee had reported in favour of the reimposition of the tariff duties, a full attendance was expected in both branches of the Legislature on the day fixed for the meeting, the 7th inst.

6. On that day there was a full attendance at the Council Board, and in the Assembly every member, with the exception of one absent from the island, was in his place.

In the Council Chamber the Board was equally divided, three voting for the confirmation of the Report, and three for its rejection. In the Assembly the subject was discussed at great length, but the final division could not be arrived at, and the further consideration of the Report was adjourned till the next meeting.



I understand that had a vote been taken, the Assembly would on that day have been divided thus; six for the rejection, and five for the confirmation of the Report; and that fact having been ascertained, the minority, by an adjournment, staved off the settlement of the question.

7. To this meeting I submitted the necessary modifications to be made in the Bill for the repairs of the highways of the island, and the several amendments were inserted in exact accordance, as I understand, with the instructions conveyed on the subject in your Excellency's recent despatch.

The Bill, however, requiring to be engrossed again, could not be sent to the Council on that day.

This Bill being now in exact conformity with your Excellency's instructions, I hope I may receive by the next mail your Excellency's permission to accord the assent of the Executive thereto, as, from the failure of the Assembly to form a meeting yesterday, I am unable to transmit by this opportunity the amended copy, as I had expected.

8. On the 7th instant the Assembly also passed a Liquor License Bill through all its stages. The revenue that may be expected from this measure is about 120*l.* a-year. Since that day I have learnt that the Speaker, in reading over the copy engrossed by the Clerk, has discovered some legal defects, which the House will have to amend before the Bill can be sent to the Council.

9. With respect to the officers' salaries, the only Bill that has yet been entered upon is the one relating to the Provost-Marshal.

The measure, however, passed by the two branches was defective in one most important particular, as it had reference solely to the present holder, and made no provision whatever for the office itself. The omission accidentally escaped the notice of the Council, and I have returned the Bill for amendment.

Should the Bill, unaltered in all other respects save placing the office on a fixed and permanent footing, be returned to me, the salary of the office would be 100*l.* a-year, with all the fees and emoluments now attached to the same. By such measure a reduction of 20*l.* a-year would be made from the present occupant, taking date from the 1st of last October. As I understand that a reduction at the same rate is likely to be observed towards the Colonial Secretary and Registrar of Deeds, in respect of the salary assigned to those appointments, also allowing him to retain all his fees and emoluments, I should like to be favoured with your Excellency's opinions thereon. In the case of Mr. E. Baynes, by a measure founded on that basis, his position would be as follows:—Colonial Secretary and Registrar of Deeds, 100*l.* a-year, fees, 80*l.*; Treasurer, 50*l.*; in all 230*l.* His former position, previous to October 1854, when the Treasurer's office was given to his charge, was, Colonial Secretary and Registrar, 120*l.*; fees, about 80*l.*; in all, 200*l.* After October 1854, as Treasurer, 90*l.*; in all, 210*l.* from the Local Treasury, and 80*l.* for fees.

10. Although some progress was made in the transaction of public business, at the meeting held on the 7th instant, yet each succeeding day only affords some additional proof of the complete unfitness of the present Assembly to perform the work that the remaining portion of the community have placed in their hands.

Not only is there great difficulty to secure a due attendance of members to form a meeting, but owing to the insubordination of some of that body, and their utter disregard of all order and decency of behaviour, it is now necessary that the quorum, seven members, should be all agreed on the measure before the House, as the minority have, on more than one occasion, when dissatisfied with the proceedings, either raised a disturbance and prevented any further progress being made that day, or else walked out of the house, and thereby broken up the meeting, the reduced number of members, on their departure, not being sufficient for the transaction of business.

11. In order that henceforth all members should have ample notice of the day fixed for the meetings of the Legislature, and to put a final check to the system, long prevalent in this island, of summoning meetings upon the requisition of two or three members, who oftentimes hope thereby to secure just a sufficient number to carry some previously concerted scheme among themselves, I have informed the Speaker of the House of Assembly and the President of

MONTERRAT.

the Council that I shall convene the Legislature on the first Tuesday in each month. And when it is ascertained that unless a sufficient attendance is secured on the day now fixed, the period of four weeks will elapse before another summons, the members of the Assembly may at length see the necessity of really paying some attention to their duties.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed)      EDW. E. RUSHWORTH.

His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief,

&amp;c.                      &amp;c.                      &amp;c.

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure 6 in No. 18.

The Honourable Mr. SAUNDERS presented the following REPORT from the FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Committee Room, Montserrat, March 17, 1857.

THE Committee appointed to "examine into and report upon the financial condition of the island, and the best means of discharging all outstanding liabilities, and providing for the regular payment of the public creditors,"

Report, That they find that the outstanding claims against the colony amounted on the 31st December last to the sum of 660*l.*, the greater part of which is due to the officers of the establishment.

That by the return hereto appended, it will be seen that the revenue of 1856 fell short 1,200*l.*, or nearly a third of that of the preceding year, and that this deficiency, 660*l.*, or rather more than half the amount, remains to be made good, the revenue of 1855 having exceeded the expenditure by about 540*l.*, which was applied to the payment of the arrears due for 1854.

In relation to the revenue and expenditure for 1857, your Committee have to report:

That the expenditure for the current year is estimated at 2,451*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*, whilst the entire amount of income available does not exceed 1,980*l.*, leaving the amount of 471*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.* totally unprovided for, the payment of which it will be necessary to meet by raising further supplies.

The annual charge of the officers of the Civil Establishment is, at the present rate of salaries, 359*l.*; of the judicial, 281*l.*; and of the ecclesiastical, 207*l.*; and as it is considered that any proposed reduction can only be made from the amount of the salaries of the officers of the Civil Establishment, your Committee are of opinion, that no reduction is practicable in this department of the public service that would afford any perceptible relief to the taxpayers, and would not cause a loss altogether disproportionate to these officers, and in all probability be found detrimental to the efficiency of the public service.

That the heaviest charge on the revenue is that which it has to bear in consequence of the public having incurred the liability of making good to the Home Government the amount of all defaults made in the payment of the interest and instalments of the loan, none of the defaulting estates having, on being sold, realized more than a fifth part of the sum advanced on them. Your Committee think that these circumstances should be brought to the notice of Her Majesty's Government, with an humble prayer that the colony may be relieved from the overwhelming pressure of this heavy obligation.

Under the above circumstances, your Committee recommend, with regard to the debt of 660*l.* due to the 31st December last, that an assessment of 7*s.* in the 100*l.* on the value of lands and houses should be raised, and also the reimposition of the tariff duties for its discharge.

As the best means of providing for the remainder of the revenue of the current year, your Committee suggest the sale of the estates now in default, under the provisions of the Loan Act, and the reimposition of the duties on import already stated.

Your Committee also find that, should the import and export duties both be re-established, an assessment of 10*s.* in the 100*l.* will be sufficient to meet all the financial requirements of the colony, but if the former only should be reimposed, the rate of taxation on real property in such case would be 15*s.* in the 100*l.*

In the event, however, of your Honourable Houses not thinking fit to disturb the existing arrangements by reverting at once to the imports and exports, found so productive and beneficial previously to the introduction of the present system, but to await its legal expiration in October 1858, your Committee suggest the imposition of a license for the sale of spirituous and fermented liquors, and an increase of the assessment on houses in the town of Plymouth to the same rate as that on estates in the country, which would fully meet the ordinary expenditure.

Passed the Committee this 17th March 1857.

Report confirmed.

ROBERT SAUNDERS, Chairman.

Enclosure 7 in No. 18.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor HAMILTON to Mr. President  
RUSHWORTH.

(Montserrat, No. 8.)

SIR,

Antigua, Government House, April 27, 1857.

I HAVE received your Despatches of the 14th April, No. 20, reporting on the financial condition of Montserrat, No. 21 transmitting copy of the proceedings of the Council and Assembly for the quarter ended 31st March, and your Despatches of the 15th April, No. 22, on the subject of the assessment for property tax on estates, and on the condition of the proprietary body generally; and No. 23, transmitting copy of the minutes of the Council and Assembly, with a report of their proceedings.

2. It will be convenient that I should notice these Despatches together, as they bear generally on the same subject.

3. In the nearly equal manner in which the contending parties are divided at Montserrat, it may be difficult to anticipate the rule which will prevail in regard to taxation; and you will probably consider it expedient to direct your attention more to the necessity which exists of obtaining a sufficient revenue than to the particular taxation by which it shall be raised.

4. The returns forwarded by you establish, I think, the propriety of the revision of the valuation of estates paying property tax.

5. As the year is advancing, with an acknowledged deficiency of revenue, it would be wise and convenient if the parties now divided on the question of imposition of import duties and a land tax, would agree to meet the deficiency on neutral ground by the imposition of some tax, such as trade licenses, removing from either party the necessity of acknowledging the victory or defeat of its opponent.

6. Due weight must be given to the remark of the Committee appointed to examine into and report upon the financial condition of the island, that the reduction of the salaries of the officers of the Civil Establishment would scarcely afford any perceptible relief to the tax-payers, and as you request my instructions on the contemplated reduction in the office of Colonial Secretary and Registrar of Deeds, I repeat my opinion that reductions of salary should be prospective, and not affect present holders of office.

7. The changes of persons in offices soon admit of arrangements by which reduction of salary can be effected without injury to individuals; and the revenue of a colony ought not to be so pared as to create inconvenience or injustice.

8. The opportunity of the abolition or union of offices, or reduction of salary on vacancies occurring, is freely offered to the Legislature of Montserrat.

9. I observe with regret, that in a population of 7,000 persons, nearly one-half of whom are represented to be under the age of 16 years, and upwards of 6,700 of whom are either not in a condition to bear taxation or are untaxed, the number of clergy has been reduced, and that there is but one clergyman of the Church of England, whose salary is small and in arrear.

10. I approve of your determination of having one stated monthly meeting of the Assembly, and shall await your report as to the working of that arrangement before conveying my further instructions.

I have, &amp;c.

His Honour the President,  
&c. &c. &c.(Signed) KER B. HAMILTON,  
Governor-in-Chief

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## ST. KITTS.

No. 19.

No. 19.

COPY of a DESPATCH from GOVERNOR KER B. HAMILTON to the Right  
Hon. H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 49.)

Leeward Islands, Antigua, May 9, 1857.

(Received June 2, 1857.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book of St. Kitts, with the  
accompanying report of the Lieut.-Governor.

22d April 1857.  
No. 35.

2. The circumstances disclosed in Lieut.-Governor Robinson's report in describing the system under which the public affairs of the Island are administered, and which exist more or less in other West India Colonies, contribute to the information already possessed, showing the absence of that administrative authority essential to good government which induced you to address me on the subject of obtaining a more effective and responsible administrative system in these colonies.

3. The assertion is beyond contradiction, that not only the minor functions but some of the higher functions of the Executive Government are usurped by the Assemblies, by means of the system of boards and committees referred to in this report.

4. The incompetency of irresponsible unpaid boards is a fact which has almost come to be received as an axiom; and if the evils of such a system are not more sensibly felt at present in St. Kitts, it is owing, as the Lieut.-Governor intimates, to the comparative state of prosperity which there exists.

5. A Bill designed to remove the evils alluded to was introduced into the Assembly at the close of last year, by which it was proposed to establish an Executive Council composed of members of the Council and Assembly, and to authorize the appointment by the Governor of a paid responsible executive committee of three, to be chosen two from the Assembly, and one from the Legislative Council.

6. It cannot excite much surprise that the measure, however desirable it might have been considered, had to encounter resistance from the majority, naturally averse to part with present privileges, and desirous to retain their present influence.

7. The want of a better system of Government is felt and acknowledged. It cannot be expected that persons residing in these colonies, and engaged in pursuits requiring great attention to realize subsistence, competency, or wealth, can devote themselves to the administration of public affairs, requiring consecutive attention; and a general feeling is beginning to prevail that certain responsible persons should be selected, and charged with the duty of performing those subordinate offices of Government essential to the due organization of modern society.

8. This requirement will ultimately prevail over those feelings of jealousy with which any supposed encroachments on the powers exercised by the Assembly are now watched, when it is more fully understood that the real power of a legislative body collectively is not diminished, although the influence of individuals may be lessened, by an efficient administrative system.

I have, &amp;c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P., (Signed) KER B. HAMILTON.  
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 19.

Enclosure in No. 19.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-Governor HERCULES G. R. ROBINSON to  
Governor HAMILTON.

(No. 35.)

SIR,

St. Christopher, 22d April 1857.

Blue Book, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book of St. Kitts for  
the year 1856.

2. The financial details, though not in all respects such as might be desired,  
are upon the whole satisfactory. The colony continues free from debt; and

notwithstanding the unusually large outlay upon public works, amounting to upwards of 5,500*l.*, the receipts of the year have been in excess of the disbursements, leaving a balance in the treasury on the 31st December last of 3,943*l.* 12*s.* 10*d.*, as compared with a balance of 3,782*l.* 4*s.* upon the corresponding day of the previous year. From this balance, however, must be deducted the liabilities to public officers and public institutions for the quarter ended 31st December 1856, amounting to about 2,900*l.*, leaving a net balance of 1,743*l.* 12*s.* 10*d.* available for the services of 1857.

#### *Revenue and Expenditure.*

3. The revenue of 1856 exceeds that of 1855 by 1,022*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.*, being respectively 16,194*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.* and 15,172*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.*. The expenditure for the same period is increased by 3,250*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.*, being in 1856 16,033*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.*, and in 1855 only 12,782*l.* 5*s.* 2*d.*

4. The increase in the revenue is attributable to the imposition of a tax upon provision grounds for educational purposes, and also to the sale of the buildings, unserviceable ordnance, and stores, handed over to the colony in 1854 upon the withdrawal of the troops.

5. The increase in the expenditure is owing to the numerous public works in progress, the details of which will be noticed under that head. With this exception the expenditure has been below the average.

The financial prospect for the present year is not altogether unclouded. The "Import Duties Act," under which nearly 10,000*l.* of the annual revenue is raised, will expire with the present session of the legislature upon the 10th July next. Upon the same day the Act passed early in 1855, imposing for two years an additional 15 per cent. upon the then existing duties and taxes (equivalent to 2,000*l.* per annum), in order to compensate for the extraordinary expenditure incurred during the visitation of cholera, will also expire. I have every reason to believe that the Import Duties Act will be re-enacted for another term of seven years without any material alteration; but it is now found that the sum (3,655*l.*) voted in 1855 by Act No. 720, for the new church in Basseterre falls short of the amount required by about 3,400*l.*, while the estimated excess of ordinary revenue over ordinary expenditure for the current year is quite inadequate to meet this unexpected demand, having indeed in a great measure been already appropriated for other purposes. Unless, therefore, this undertaking is to be brought to a stand-still, it will be found necessary to continue for another two years the additional taxation already referred to. Such a proposal will no doubt meet with considerable opposition; but as it is clear that if this work, which is now progressing satisfactorily, be either suspended or proceeded with so slowly as to absorb only the surplus revenue as it flows in, the cost of it will be materially increased, and the ultimate completion even rendered doubtful, I trust the legislature will be induced to provide the necessary means, so as to avoid any stoppage of this very desirable undertaking.

(Act, No. 690.)

(Act, No. 716.)

#### *Imports and Exports.*

7. There is an increase in the estimated value of the imports, as compared with 1855, amounting to 14,907*l.* 12*s.* 10*d.*, the imports for 1856 being returned at 109,005*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.*, and for 1855 at 96,097*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.*. This increase, so far as it is real, is probably to be ascribed to a slight improvement in trade, consequent upon the circulation amongst the consuming class of the unusually large sum expended upon public works, and also to the fact that the past year was not favorable to the growth of ground provisions, which may have led to the substitution of imported food for the succulents upon which the laboring population are mainly accustomed to rely. The increase is, however, more apparent than real, and is chiefly owing to the alteration in the form of the import returns which appear in the present Blue Book, and which exhibit the value of the total imports of the year, and include, therefore, the value of the articles imported into bond, and either subsequently exported or remaining in bond for exportation or future consumption (estimated at 6,500*l.*), whereas in former Blue Books the value of the articles imported and entered for home consumption were alone stated; while, on the other hand, some allowance must be made for the value of the goods in bond on the 1st January 1856, and either entered

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for consumption during the past year or exported, which do not appear in the returns of the total value of imports for that year, and were not included in previous returns. If, therefore, these returns had been prepared according to the old form, the imports would not, as far as I can judge, have exhibited an increase of more than about one half of what they now do. The following is a statement of the value of the imports for the last five years :

Year.	Value of imports.		
	£	s.	d.
1852	-	-	76,680 2 3
1853	-	-	91,935 11 8
1854	-	-	107,965 0 7
1855	-	-	96,097 11 4
1856	-	-	109,005 4 2

8. The exports show a small decrease; viz., from 144,641*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.* in 1855 to 137,531*l.* 4*s.* in 1856, being a falling off in value of 7,110*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.* It will, however, be observed that they have exceeded the imports by 28,522*l.* 19*s.* 10*d.*, and that they exceed the average value of the exports for the past five years, as will be seen from the subjoined return :

Year.	Value of exports.		
	£	s.	d.
1852	-	-	91,741 19 3
1853	-	-	131,812 9 2
1854	-	-	133,089 9 2
1855	-	-	144,641 12 3
1856	-	-	137,531 4 0

9. It is, however, entirely owing to the high price of produce in the home market that the past year contrasts so favourably in the value of the exports with many previous years, the quantity exported having been far below the average. This decrease was anticipated, as stated in my Despatch No. 26, of the 14th April 1856, which accompanied the Blue Book for 1855, as a necessary consequence of the cessation of all field labour, in consequence of the prevalence of cholera, at the close of 1854 and the commencement of 1855, when the planting of the crop for 1856 should have been in full progress. The planters, unable to carry on the cultivation of their estates to the usual extent in the ordinary manner, fell back, as their only resource, upon a course of "ratoons," or second crop from the same plants; a system rarely successful in this island, and which in this instance, in consequence of the unfavourable weather which ensued, proved a total failure. The quantity of produce exported for each of the last five years was as follows :

Year.		Hbls. of sugar.		Pun. of rum.		Pun. of molasses.
1852	-	5,140	-	723	-	1,902
1853	-	7,053	-	870	-	2,793
1854	-	8,005	-	1,922	-	3,178
1855	-	7,245	-	1,894	-	1,747
1856	-	5,884	-	1,420	-	1,739

10. The prospect of the crop for the current year is, I regret to report, far from encouraging. A large extent of land was placed under cultivation at the commencement of last year, and the fields presented a very promising appearance until about the month of May, when a season of drought commenced, which prevailed for upwards of six months; and I fear that the crop of the present year will, in consequence, scarcely exceed 4,000 hogshheads.

*Public Works.*

11. Under this head there has been an expenditure of 5,522*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.*, which has been distributed in the following manner :

	£	s.	d.
1. Repairs of roads, bridges, and watercourses	-	1,260	4 1
2. Repairs of public buildings	-	758	14 4
3. Erecting new treasury buildings and police barrack	-	500	0 0
4. Erecting new harbour lighthouse at head of pier	-	100	0 0
5. New cemetery	-	304	0 2
6. Waterworks	-	100	0 0
7. New church, Basseterre	-	2,500	0 0
		<u>5,522</u>	<u>18 7</u>

12. The roads and public buildings have been kept in repair during the past year at little more than the ordinary expense, as will be seen by the foregoing statement, and may be pronounced to be, with the exception of one or two of the country churches, in a satisfactory condition.

13. A commodious barrack, 116 feet long by 42 broad, has been removed from Brimstone Hill, and placed at the head of the pier, to be used for a treasury and a police barrack. A lighthouse has been constructed upon the top of the building, the old one being in a dilapidated condition. These arrangements, in addition to affording greatly increased facilities for the transaction of business both to the officers of the treasury department and the public generally, will effect a saving in the expenditure of nearly 150*l.* per annum.

14. The new cemetery, to the leeward of the town of Basseterre, comprising a space of ten acres, has during the past year been surrounded by a wall; and an iron railing with which it is to be surmounted has been procured from England. I am glad to be enabled to report that interments in the town have now almost entirely ceased. In a sanitary point of view this change is of much importance.

15. Another desirable arrangement, the supply of Basseterre with pure and wholesome water from the mountains, a project of long standing, is at last on the point of completion. The pipes have already been laid down from the source of the supply in the mountains to the outskirts of the town, a distance of nearly three miles. This portion of the work has been performed by means of penal labour. A large reservoir has been constructed about the centre of the line, and a handsome fountain is in course of erection at the terminus of the works, and will serve in some measure to embellish this very ugly and ill-built town. One of the most pleasing features in connexion with these operations is the fact that the total expense will not exceed the amount originally voted by the legislature for the purpose (2,000*l.*); a result of rare occurrence in the history of public undertakings.

16. The new church now in course of erection in the parish of St. George, Basseterre, has made rapid progress during the past year, and the works, in so far as they have gone, have been constructed in a substantial and suitable manner, and at the lowest cost consistent with a sound economy. But the undertaking was necessarily commenced without sufficient data as to the probable cost, and many unforeseen expenses were discovered during the progress of the work. The result, as has been already stated, is that the sum voted by the legislature in 1855 (3,655*l.*) has been expended, and a further grant of 3,400*l.* will be required for its completion. The commissioners appointed to carry out the provisions of the Act report that they hope to have the building ready for use by the close of the present year, should the necessary funds be forthcoming. I should despair of seeing this work completed if again interrupted; and I fervently trust that nothing may occur to delay the satisfactory completion of an undertaking which is so urgently required, and which has been a prolific source of constantly recurring dissensions and ill-feeling for the last fourteen years.

#### *Legislation.*

17. Eight Acts became law during 1856, none of which appear to be of sufficient importance to call for special notice, with the exception of "An Act for compiling and printing a new Edition of the Laws of this Island and 'Anguilla.'" This Act was framed upon the model of the Act passed in Barbados in 1854 for a similar purpose, and which has resulted in the compilation of all the Acts of that island into one volume. This is an improvement much needed here, and, I am happy to report, in a fair way of being accomplished, as the commissioners appointed under the Act to carry out its provisions have completed their part of the undertaking, and the draft is ready for transmission to the printers in London. The total expense of this project will not, I believe, exceed 400*l.*

18. I may mention under this head a desirable arrangement which has been entered into during the past year with the Colonial Bank, under the authority of a joint resolution of the legislative houses, by which the floating balances of public monies are deposited in the Colonial Bank from quarter to quarter, and thus rendered productive of interest at the rate of three per cent. per

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annum, while they are, at the same time, held available for the ordinary requirements of the colony.

*Political Franchise.*

Paper No. 1.

19. In order to give more detailed information, and for a longer period, under this head than can be found at page 59 of the Blue Book, I forward herewith a statement showing the number of voters who took part in the last four general elections, together with other particulars connected with this subject. An examination of this paper will disclose some strange facts. The island is divided into nine electoral divisions or parishes, which return altogether 24 members, who, with one member from Anguilla, constitute the so-called popular branch of the legislature. At the last census, taken on the 1st January 1855, the population of St. Kitts was found to be 20,741, of whom only 166 are possessed of the elective franchise; 87 of this number are in one parish, and 26 in another, leaving only 53 qualified voters in the remaining seven parishes to return 17 members, giving an average of one representative to every three voters. It would appear that the constituency of the island, limited as they are, take but little interest in the result of the elections, as I find that out of the 166 electors only 81 came forward to vote for the 24 members returned at the general election of 1853, 43 at the general election of 1854, 65 at that of 1855; while at the last general election in July 1856, 47 voters elected 22 members, one parish being unable to return the two representatives allowed to it, the sole constituent, a member of Council, being absent in Europe on leave. Some reform in this particular is surely needed. Indeed to designate a House of Assembly of 22 members, elected by 47 voters, out of a population of 21,000, as the "representatives of the people," and the "popular branch of the legislature," is simply ridiculous. The subject is, however, surrounded with many difficulties, amongst which I may specify the indifference with which their privileges are viewed by the present limited constituency, the apathy of the unrepresented population, and the absence of anything like a wholesome public opinion.

20. Another improvement to be desired is in the mode of taking the elections. By an Act passed in A.D. 1727, which regulates the proceedings at elections, the members of Council are constituted the returning officers for the House of Assembly, and the arrangement has remained in force to the present day, but it appears to me to be open to grave objections. A Bill was passed by the House of Assembly in 1855, by which this duty was imposed on the provost marshal, but the measure was thrown out by the board of Council.

*Council and Assembly.*

21. A reform in the system under which the public affairs of this island are administered is much required; and as the question engaged a considerable share of attention during the year under review, it is but right that I should allude to the subject.

22. The present condition of St. Kitts bears a striking resemblance in many respects to the state of things which prevailed in Jamaica before the recent change in the system of government in that colony was introduced, though indeed it is in some respects decidedly worse. The House of Assembly by gradual encroachments have practically acquired the control of financial affairs, and assumed many other purely administrative functions, which by the theory of the constitution belong, not to a legislative body, but to the executive Government. The Executive is not represented officially, or even at present unofficially, in either of the legislative houses, and is unable to communicate to them any suggestion or explanation, except personally, when opening a new session, or by message, a clumsy antiquated mode of procedure, by which the views of the Executive are always liable to be misunderstood, and which at the best falls far short of that unreserved intercourse between the Government and the legislature which is essential to cordial co-operation for the public good. The Executive, further, is wholly absolved from all responsibility in connexion with the management of the expenditure, while at the same time there is no member of the Assembly charged with or answerable for the preparation, at the commencement of each financial year, of an estimate of ways and means and expenditure, a salutary precaution which is therefore altogether neglected. Again, the revenue is not appropriated annually as it should be by statutory



enactment. About one half of the expenditure is fixed by law; the bulk of the remainder goes before a committee of public accounts (composed of members of the Council and Assembly) at the end of each quarter, and when passed by them is submitted to the Assembly in the form of a report, which is generally adopted without scrutiny, sent to the Council for their concurrence, and a resolution is passed requesting the Lieut.-Governor to sign orders on the treasury for the respective amounts mentioned in a schedule which is annexed, and which contains simply the names of the parties to be paid, and the amount due to each. Of the particulars of these accounts, or their necessity for the requirements of the public service, the Executive is never informed, and has no opportunity of judging. The salaries of many of the public officers, including the colonial secretary, provost marshal, clerk of the Council, and clerk of the Assembly, are not fixed either by statute or resolution of the legislature, but are voted in the manner I have detailed from quarter to quarter, upon the recommendation of the committee of public accounts. Formerly, I understand, the Assembly were very jealous and watchful of the proceedings of this committee, seeing the immense power placed in their hands; and the committee were not allowed to pass any account unless the outlay had been incurred under the special authority of some resolution of the house; but now their action is not restrained by any such regulation. I find, further, that the Assembly professes to be guided in all its proceedings by the standing rules and orders of the House of Commons, "in so far as they are applicable to this island;" but, notwithstanding that the Assembly dates only from A.D. 1713, the standing order of the House of Commons of the 11th December 1706, viz., "that this house will receive no petition for any sum of money relating to the public service but what is recommended from the Crown," and the whole theory upon which the foundation of all parliamentary taxation rests, namely, its necessity for the public service as declared by the Crown, is systematically disregarded. Any member of the Assembly may make application for and obtain a grant of public money, independent alike of the wishes of the Crown or the exigencies of the public service. Formerly there was a rule of the house, requiring notice to be given of any such motion; but this regulation, like the one governing the proceedings of the committee of public accounts, has for a long time fallen into desuetude. I find that in the last four years 20,000*l.* was voted in the manner I have described, without any previous notice, or the publicity which the passing a Bill through the stages would have ensured, but by simple resolution on the spur of the moment, not only in nearly every case without the recommendation of any responsible authority, but without the Executive, for whose requirements, as representative of the Crown, public money is in theory supposed to be granted, being made cognizant of the purposes to which the greater portion is to be applied.

25. This faulty system, under which an irresponsible Assembly has acquired almost absolute power in the financial administration of the colony, has naturally resulted in much waste and mismanagement of the public money. When it is stated that the island is at present free from debt, under this system, every thing will have been said which it is possible to advance in its favour; but in looking to the future I can place little reliance upon this fact, which it would be easy to trace to accidental circumstances, while the seeds of the evils which have overwhelmed other communities, and frequently involved this one in pecuniary embarrassments, are allowed to remain in active operation; and I fail to discover in the working of the present system, or rather in the present absence of all system, any guarantee that the close of this or any future year may not find the colony once more involved in the difficulties from which it has only been free for a very few years. In 1845 I find that the island was even more favourably circumstanced than it now is in this respect, there being a balance in the treasury upon the 31st of March of that year in favour of the public of 4,358*l.*; but in the course of three years (February 1848), without in the meanwhile any unforeseen calamity having occurred, the committee of public accounts reported that by the end of that year there would be a balance against the public of 4,000*l.* This proved correct; and in 1849 treasury debentures, bearing interest, had to be issued, and the island was involved in difficulties until 1851. For some years thereafter the revenue exceeded the expenditure, and upon the 1st January 1854 there was an available surplus balance in the treasury (after allowing for all outstanding liabilities at that date)

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of nearly 5,000*l.*; but by the 1st January 1855, the cholera having occurred in the meanwhile, there were again outstanding liabilities unprovided for to the extent of 2,000*l.*, which had to be met by additional taxation. In short, the financial history of this island for a number of years shows nothing more clearly than the want of some judicious and settled system of economy, in place of the alternate parsimony and extravagance which have hitherto prevailed.

24. But it is not only in the system of voting the expenditure that the Assembly have assumed functions which must be considered as incompatible with those of a legislative body. A large portion of the administrative business of the island is at present conducted by unpaid joint committees of both houses, with whom the Executive is constitutionally precluded from communicating. The "committee of public accounts," in addition to the duties which have been detailed, act also as a "board of audit," and the auditing of the public accounts appears to be thoroughly defective. In fact, nothing at all deserving of the name of an audit ever takes place, about four hours only in the whole year being devoted to the task. Then there is a "committee of public buildings" and "public works," who have the superintendence of the outlay of a large sum of public money, and whose accounts are supposed to be audited by the "committee of public accounts." This same committee also act as "vestries and churchwardens," whose duties are rather undefined. There is next a "public roads committee," and also a "committee to carry out the provisions of the Immigration Act," who have the absolute control of a large fund raised by special taxation, and whose accounts are not required to be audited at all. There is a "committee of public records," and numerous others which it would be needless to detail. These committees, imperfect as they are, have of late years increased both in number and power, and are in truth but the natural fruits of the present administrative system, there being simply a choice between them, and a contrivance almost equally objectionable. I allude to the numerous unpaid special commissions, which have also increased in number of late years.

25. Under the present form of government, whenever any administrative business has to be performed, not within the strict routine of duty of the few paid servants of the Government, it must be intrusted either to a legislative committee or a special commission appointed by the Executive, and both modes appear almost equally faulty. The first is cumbrous and unwieldy in the extreme, difficult to be got together, and still more difficult to be got to transact business steadily when convened, nor can it be put into communication with the Executive, or indeed strictly speaking with any executive department, except through the intervention of the houses themselves, who meet but once a month, and it is unreasonable to expect that such a roundabout mode can produce any other result than it does, namely, irresponsible inefficiency. On the other hand, the working of unpaid commissions and boards is, generally speaking, equally unsatisfactory, and the legislative houses naturally complain that from the moment the money is voted for any undertaking, and that the measure is handed over to the Executive to be carried out by means of a commission, the Executive not being represented in the houses, they find themselves practically deprived of any voice or control in carrying out the details, and are even unable to obtain information on the subject. This is no doubt true, and hence, no middle course having as yet been devised, there is at present but the choice between these two evils,—the legislative houses must either do the work themselves, and thus assume functions little suited to such bodies, or else they must relinquish that control over administrative business which, under the theory of the British constitution, they should retain; and it appears only natural that they should prefer the former alternative, more particularly when the working of the latter may be characterized as almost equally inefficient.

26. With a view of correcting these evils a Bill (a copy of which was transmitted by my Despatch No. 66. of the 13th December 1856) was prepared, and introduced into the Assembly at the close of the last year, when it was read a first time, and ordered to be printed; but upon the motion for the second reading it was rejected. By this Bill it was proposed (1st) to establish an Executive Council, to act as the advising council of the Governor, and to be composed, not as the Privy Council is at present, of members of the Legislative Council only, but of members of both branches of the legislature; and (2dly) to authorize the appointment by the Governor of a paid Executive Committee of three members, to be chosen two from the Assembly and one from the Legislative Council, who were to hold office so long as they retained the confidence of both

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houses. The members of the committee were to act as the organs of the Government in their respective chambers; to assist the Governor in the preparation of annual estimates, in the collecting and distributing of public monies, and in the general administration of the finances of the island; to prepare and perfect all papers, answers, bills, and other matters which the Governor might deem fit to submit to either branch of the legislature; to discharge the duties of a board of audit, and the duties at present performed by the several committees of public accounts, public buildings, and all other administrative duties now performed by joint committees of the Board of Council and House of Assembly; and, above all, it was provided that all motions for grants or appropriations of money should originate in the House of Assembly with the members of the Executive Committee therein, or with their sanction, and not otherwise.

27. These were the leading features of the proposed measure; and, strange as the statement will appear, the opposition which it encountered in the Assembly was avowedly more to the first part of the proposal, i. e., the creation of an Executive Council, than to the confining of their own powers within prescribed constitutional limits, which would have been the result of the second part, and to which the majority, I understand, expressed themselves favourable. The chief objection was to members of Assembly sitting at the Privy Council Board with the Governor, which it was asserted would practically increase to an unlimited extent the power of the Executive, while it would destroy the independence of the house; and although this objection amounted simply to a declaration of a want of confidence in themselves, the measure was nevertheless in consequence defeated, and must be allowed to rest for at least the remainder of this session.

28. Much, however, has in my opinion been gained by bringing the measure forward, notwithstanding its temporary rejection; for it has led persons to investigate the real rights and privileges and safeguards of the constitution, of which our institutions here are supposed to be a copy, and it has served to check any further advances, if such were possible, in a wrong direction. The present time appears also peculiarly favourable for considering any such change, inasmuch as it can now be done apart from the bitterness and asperities which pecuniary embarrassments and the necessary retrenchment inevitably give rise to in these small communities. The measure has been warmly supported and ably advocated by those whose opinions can scarcely fail to carry weight; and when the public become familiarized with the idea, and have time to reflect upon it, I feel convinced it will be viewed with favour, and ultimately adopted. Such objections as "want of material" and the "state of the franchise," which have been urged against it, have in reality no bearing upon the contemplated change. A form of constitution exists which has obtained for a century and a half, and, however imperfect, and unsuited to the present state of society, upon which there can scarcely be two opinions, nothing short of compulsion by Parliamentary interference would serve to abrogate it. The present proposal does not seek to do so; it merely takes the material as it at present exists, and substitutes paid responsible servants selected from the legislative houses, for the unpaid irresponsible action of those bodies in conducting the administrative business of the island. The proposal has been little understood in some quarters, and the wildest ideas have been advanced in connexion with it. I may, therefore, explain here, that it was never proposed to establish party Government in the sense which the term implies in other colonies. It was not proposed that any of the public servants at present holding offices of trust or emolument should for the future hold their offices upon any political tenure, or that any change whatever should take place in this respect. For such a system of responsible Government the island undoubtedly does not possess the material, and is altogether unfitted. The rejected measure simply went the length of providing that what is now not attempted to be done at all, viz., superintending the expenditure, and what is attempted, but inefficiently executed, viz., the discharge of administrative duties by irresponsible unpaid joint committees of the two houses, should for the future be entrusted, under the supervision of the Executive, to three responsible paid servants chosen from those bodies, and holding office so long only as they retained their confidence. However imperfect even such a reformed system may be considered, and however ill suited to a state of society such as is found here, it would unquestionably be a great improvement upon what at present exists; it would present an immediate remedy for many great and acknowledged evils, and

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would. I am convinced, lead eventually to other important and desirable changes, which, under present circumstances, it would be hopeless to seek to carry out.

29. One other remedy only has been suggested for the existing evils, viz. the union of the two legislative chambers into one, and a measure for effecting this object was brought a few years ago under the consideration of the legislative houses, when it not only failed in enlisting any support, but encountered almost unanimous opposition, but it must be evident that such a measure would not meet the case here, unless it were combined with the adoption of the principle of responsibility in some form or other in conducting the administrative business of the island.

*Labour and Immigration.*

30. The want of continuous labour still constitutes the chief impediment to the further development of the productive resources of this island. I have but little to add to the lengthened remarks which I ventured to submit upon this subject in my report which accompanied the Blue Book for 1855. Nothing has occurred to alter the opinion which I then held, that no permanent remedy for the evil can be found short of the advancement in civilization of the labouring classes, who are already in point of numbers sufficient to meet every requirement. Efforts are being made in this direction, but the attainment of the end must be a work of time. As to measures of immediate relief, partial attempts have been made to take advantage of the disposition which very generally exists on the part of the population to engage in cultivation on their own account, by admitting them to a participation in the profits with the planters (commonly known as the halves system); but the general results of such attempts have not, as far as I can learn, been encouraging; and it is not likely that the system will be carried out to any extent here; nor is there much prospect of the establishment here of any division of labour, whereby the cultivation of the cane and manufacture of the sugar would be conducted by different parties, many local difficulties presenting themselves to any such scheme. The only source looked to for the present relief is the introduction of indentured labourers from other countries, and the first step in this direction was taken in the month of April last year, under the provisions of the Immigration Act (No. 717.), by the importation of 108 labourers from Madeira, under contract to serve for three years. Shortly after the arrival of this first batch the outbreak of cholera at Madeira closed this source of supply, and it was not until last month that a second lot of 58 were obtained. There appears, however, now to be a fair prospect of a limited but regular supply from this quarter. The balance in the treasury of the immigration fund on the 31st December last amounted to nearly 2,700*l.*; and as one half of the expense of each immigrant imported is borne by the planter to whom he is allotted, the amount available for this purpose may at this moment be estimated at about 5,000*l.*

*Sanitary.*

31. The adoption of proper measures of sanitary improvement is a reform urgently required here; but the paramount importance of the subject does not appear to be sufficiently appreciated by the inhabitants generally, notwithstanding the warning they have had in the recent visitation of cholera. I urged the consideration of this question upon the legislative houses as forcibly as I could in my speech on opening the new session in July last, a copy of which I forwarded at the time in my Despatch No. 44. of the 17th July 1856, and as all the local deficiencies and requirements in connexion with this subject are there detailed, it is unnecessary that I should recapitulate them now. It will be sufficient to observe, that although the evils were admitted, and my suggestions favourably received, no decided efforts to remedy these defects have as yet been made. The Board of Health requires to be altogether remodelled. It consists of some 25 gentlemen, whose zeal and self devotion during the prevalence of cholera were deserving of all praise, but with the disappearance of the immediate cause for this unusual exertion the board relapsed into comparative inaction, and I find that they only met during the year 1856 three times, and upon those occasions only in consequence of the receipt of intelligence of the prevalence of cholera in other colonies, for the purpose of enforcing quarantine measures. I cannot view this result with any surprise. It is the natural consequence of the very imperfect and inconvenient system of transacting public

business, which has of late years, as I have already stated, been much on the increase, and this board (like many others similarly constituted) exhibits in its working a striking example of the hopelessness of expecting from unpaid and virtually irresponsible persons, whose time is already fully occupied, that systematic application which in a matter of this kind can alone effect any permanent reform.

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#### Education.

92. The returns under this head are satisfactory. The Act for raising a fund for educational purposes by means of a tax upon provision grounds came into operation upon the 1st January 1856, and thus far the favourable anticipations which I expressed in regard to it when transmitting the Blue Book for 1855 have been realized. The two assessments of last year under this Act have been collected without any default, producing 63*2l.* 7*s.* 10*d.*, which, with 206*l.* 11*s.* 0*d.* received from the children in school fees, makes a total of 838*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.* (independent of all private contributions) expended during the year for educational purposes. The attendance in the different schools appears to be steadily increasing, and from the control which the Act gives to the board of education I have no doubt that a plainer and sounder system of instruction and training will in due time be brought about.

#### Gold and Prisoners.

93. I forward with this Despatch a return (in continuation of the one forwarded in previous years) showing the number of convicts sentenced to imprisonment for each of the last five years, specifying the nature of their offences. From this it will be seen that a considerable increase has taken place in the number of prisoners during 1856, as compared with the previous year, chiefly under the head of convictions for cane stealing and other petty thefts; a result usually ensuing in this country upon an unfavourable agricultural season.

Paper No. 2.

#### Conclusion.

94. Upon the whole I have to report favourably of the condition and even the prospects of the island, though as to the latter I cannot but see sufficient room for uneasiness. The present condition of the island may be fairly judged from the details of the Blue Book. Its future prospects I have endeavoured to explain; but I cannot close this Despatch without once more referring to the insecurity of the finances, and the very great risk there is, that unless some material change be introduced into the mode of conducting public business generally, the community may some day find themselves surrounded by difficulties which they have no means of efficiently resisting. My great hope is, that being now forewarned, they may adopt some better system, and thus be found forearmed when the day of trial and of danger comes.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) HERCULES G. R. ROBINSON,  
Lieut.-Governor.

## No. 1.

No. 1.

## SAINT CHRISTOPHER FRANCHISE RETURNS.

Name of Parish.	Area in Statute Acres.	Population on 1st January 1855.			Number of Males registered by each Parish.	Number of Persons registered to vote in each Parish.	Number who voted at last Four Elections.			
		31.	2.	Total.			1853	1854	1855	1856
St. George, Basseterre	7,127	2,298	3,031	5,319	4	87	43	12	31	10
St. Peter, Basseterre	4,719	956	959	1,915	12	11	3	3	3	1
Trinity, Palmetto Point	3,611	473	421	894	12	11	2	3	2	3
St. Thomas, Middle Island	6,071	932	1,095	1,994	12	13	4	1	3	3
St. Ann, Sandy Point	5,119	1,408	1,728	3,169	12	26	6	11	13	17
St. Paul, Capisterre	3,565	735	823	1,558	12	6	3	2	2	1
St. John, Capisterre	6,152	1,155	1,248	2,403	12	10	3	2	3	6
Christ Church, New Town	3,997	780	881	1,661	12	1	1	1	1	Nil.
St. Mary, Cayon	3,996	813	935	1,748	12	7	3	3	3	3
Total	42,014	9,325	11,216	20,741	24	166	81	43	63	47

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Paper No. 2.

Paper No. 2.

NUMBER of CONVICTS sentenced to Death or to Imprisonment, or Imprisonment with Hard Labour, for the Years 1852 to 1856.

## CRIMES.

	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.
<i>1st. Against the Person :</i>					
Assaults - - - - -	39	38	32	30	24
Assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm - - - - -	10	6	9	1	4
Assault with intent to murder - - - - -	—	—	—	—	—
Culpable homicide - - - - -	—	1	1	—	1
Murder (executed) - - - - -	—	—	1	—	—
Rape or assault with intent - - - - -	—	—	—	—	1
Unnatural offences or attempts - - - - -	—	—	—	—	—
	49	45	43	31	30
<i>2d. Against Property with Violence :</i>					
House, &c. breaking with intent to steal, and theft - - - - -	5	—	—	—	—
Robbery - - - - -	—	3	—	—	—
	5	3	—	—	—
<i>3d. Against Property without Violence :</i>					
Cattle, horse, and sheep stealing, theft or receipt of stolen goods, &c. - - - - -	173	53	65	32	117
Frauds, embezzlement, vagrant act - - - - -	2	1	5	1	3
	175	54	66	33	120
<i>4th. Malicious Offences against Property :</i>					
Arson - - - - -	1	—	—	—	—
Forgery - - - - -	—	—	—	2	5
Other malicious injury of property - - - - -	16	3	7	2	1
	17	3	7	4	6
<i>5th. Other Offences :</i>					
Abusive language - - - - -	12	7	15	8	15
Aiding prisoners to escape - - - - -	—	—	—	—	—
Contempt of Court - - - - -	—	—	1	—	—
Contract act - - - - -	9	1	5	5	4
Conspiracy - - - - -	—	—	—	—	—
Cruelty to animals - - - - -	—	1	5	1	5
Disorderly conduct - - - - -	66	53	24	29	46
Exposing person - - - - -	3	5	—	—	—
Forcible possession - - - - -	—	—	—	1	—
Game laws - - - - -	—	—	2	1	—
Merchant seamen's Act - - - - -	5	19	—	2	5
Perjury - - - - -	4	1	—	—	—
Petty trespass Act - - - - -	—	—	—	2	15
Pound-breach - - - - -	—	1	2	—	1
Resisting police - - - - -	1	—	5	—	5
Revenue laws - - - - -	1	1	—	3	2
Sanitary - - - - -	—	1	6	—	—
Unauthorized detention of property - - - - -	1	—	—	1	1
Uttering counterfeit coin - - - - -	—	—	—	1	—
	102	63	57	54	95
<b>TOTAL</b> - - - - -	348	168	173	122	251

## NEVIS.

NEVIS

No. 20.

No. 20.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor HAMILTON to the  
Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 54.)

Antigua, June 4, 1857.

Sir,

(Received June 30, 1857.)

In Duplicate.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book of Nevis for the year 1856, with President Sir Arthur Rumbold's Report thereon, and a letter addressed to him by Stipendiary Magistrate Dyett, also relating to the state of the island.

2. The abolition of the import duties has not been successful in cheapening articles to the labouring population; for, in St. Kitts, where a high tariff exists, the necessities of life, it is stated, are frequently procurable at a less price than in Nevis; and no sufficient substitute having as yet been provided for those duties which formed the principal part of the revenue, Nevis is suffering from the bad effects of a deficient revenue.

3. The President advocates a return to, or at least a modification of the old system; but the proprietors, who are sensible of the advantages they derive from an unfettered trade, which has brought cheapness into their transactions, are of course unwilling to re-impose import duties, but not less unwilling to increase direct taxation.

4. Under these circumstances, it is difficult to say when a sufficient revenue will be raised to defray the very moderate salaries of the public officers, who are the chief sufferers.

5. Nevis and Montserrat, in which direct taxation prevails, are the only islands in this Government in which the revenue is insufficient to meet the ordinary expenditure, and that taxation is reluctantly submitted to.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) KER B. HAMILTON.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 20.

Copy of a DESPATCH from President Sir ARTHUR RUMBOLD to  
the GOVERNOR-IN-CHIEF.

(No. 48.)

Sir,

Nevis, May 20, 1857.

Triplicate.

I MUST crave your Excellency's indulgence for the late period at which the Blue Book for Nevis for 1856 is forwarded. I have had to return the whole of the statistical tables for recompilation; the book was in fact only placed in my hands on the 15th instant. As I was not in the colony during any part of 1856, I have directed Mr. Stipendiary Justice Dyett to draw up a Report, which I herewith forward. I regret to find that he fully confirms my own impression as to the slight progress made by the colony in political advancement, or in the measures calculated to further develop the social or moral reformation of the population.

2. In my Despatch No. 37, of April 18th, I entered fully into what I humbly conceived to be the causes of the state of financial embarrassment in which I found the colony on my assumption of the Government, a state of finance which my predecessor in January last has termed "normal." I do not on more mature reflection see any cause to alter the opinion I then expressed; and shall now proceed to make a few general remarks as they may be suggested by the tables which accompany this Report.

*Revenue and Expenditure.*

3. According to the two quinquennial tables, A, B, and C, the revenue would appear to have been always in excess of the expenditure; the tables have been compiled from the Blue Books for that period. The said Blue

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Books, however, I regret to say, appear to be very incorrect, and certainly the fact is not established that Nevis has ever had a permanent surplus revenue. In the commencement of the present year a debt of 1,449*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.* (chiefly due to public officers for salaries) existed; and yet I find that to the sources derived from the Direct Taxation Bill, which came into force in March 1856, but was collected for the whole twelve months, must be superadded two months' import and export duties; the revenue on an average may be taken at 3,500*l.* The neighbouring island of St. Kitts, which has a population of as nearly as possible the double of that of Nevis, raises a revenue about five times the amount of this colony, so that the taxes of this community cannot be considered burthen-some; yet it is very questionable whether a revenue sufficient for the present very moderate requirements can be raised by direct taxation exclusively; for either a very faulty mode of assessment exists, or land cannot bear any additional burthen, as the present tax professes to raise 20 per cent. on the rental or letting value of sugar estates. A combination of systems must necessarily follow. It appears to me to be a most hazardous experiment to rely exclusively on direct taxation, in a West Indian community, to raise a sufficient revenue; the danger is great. No rule of political economy is applicable to all conditions of society. Though free trade is eminently successful in England, in a small colony, isolated necessarily by its geographical position, and producing the necessaries of life largely, all importations must be limited; and to abandon duties on these is synonymous with a renunciation of fixed revenue. It is remarkable, moreover, that scarcely any perceptible diminution in price has resulted to the general consumers, notwithstanding a total abrogation of import duties; at St. Kitts, where a tariff exists, the necessaries of life are frequently procurable at a less price than in Nevis. Moderate import duties would not, I conceive, affect the peasantry, and not only act as an inducement to additional labour, but obviate those difficulties which have presented themselves to the harmonious order of good government in every West India colony where the revenue has been raised by the operation of direct taxation. Moreover, I consider that I am fully borne out in stating that the mercantile body generally, the interest, primarily at least, most benefited in a pecuniary point of view by the present abrogation of duties, would hail a return to a well adjusted tariff as being for this very limited colony the most advantageous mode of raising the revenue.

4. The peasantry working under the Metairie operation are, with the present remunerative rates of produce, well off; but under less favourable circumstances, the emigration to the other islands, which even now exists, would, I am convinced, be disastrously increased by the dissatisfaction produced by direct taxation. It is no argument, so far as the labourer here is concerned, that his taxation is trivial compared with the English labourer; it is the system which he views as unjust, and consequently supports reluctantly, if at all, and relative to which he is peculiarly averse to listen either to explanation or reason; in short, it is difficult to conceive any other means of supplying a deficit of the ordinary revenue, which is already far too small for all practical purposes, much less to attain an addition, so as to carry out works of public utility which are now entirely abandoned, and grant encouragement to industrial schools, for which no sort of provision is made; far from education being "pushed through every avenue we can find for it," every public avenue in Nevis is pertinaciously closed against it.

#### *Imports.*

5. With the exception of a large apparent increase for 1856, these present no remarkable feature, though allowance should be made for some increase in the trade of last year. I am inclined to put down a large portion of the augmentation to the open importation of goods; no pretence now exists for smuggling; this, there can be no doubt, was formerly extensively carried on, and the customs' staff was always inadequate for the prevention of illicit trade. A singular corroboration of the amount of which the revenue was defrauded was arrived at during the late visitation of cholera, when the boat trade between Nevis and St. Kitts was altogether suspended, and Nevis trafficked with St. Thomas and Antigua,—both these islands are too far removed for smuggling in open boats,—the receipts of the customs were more than doubled in the quarter, being respectively 315*l.* 8*s.* 11*d.* in 1853, and 670*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.* in 1854.



*Exports.*

6. With the exception of 1847, as per Returns D and E, these present but little feature for remark. I am happy to say that the seasons have been, and promise to be, most favourable, and though such a remarkable crop as that of 1847 cannot be again anticipated, yet a large augmentation is looked for next year, as a considerable addition has been made to the land under cultivation.

*Gaols.*

7. By the destruction of the upper part of the barracks, which had been converted into the island gaol, only the ground floor cells remained; since then it appears to have really become a place of punishment, and as such to inspire salutary awe. The return F presents a remarkable feature, for during eight months, from January 1856 to August last inclusive, there were 109 prisoners confined in the gaol; during the next eight months (up to April last inclusive), there were only 63; the gaol was destroyed in August. It is true that the stipendiary magistrate has in all instances, when in his power, levied and recovered fines rather than commit to gaol offenders brought before him in his magisterial capacity; but there can be little doubt that the main cause for the apparent diminution of prisoners arises from the fear entertained of being confined in the hot cells, which, until a prison is built, I lament to have to say constitutes the Colonial Gaol; the embarrassed state of finance precludes at present the undertaking of this necessary work, but I shall lose no opportunity to urge its completion upon the Legislature.

*Legislation.*

8. One solitary Act, the Alien Act, graces the Statute Book of Nevis for the past year; it is hard to say what laws exist; there is no printing press in the island, and no compilation or consolidation has been effected. One of my first recommendations was, that a revision and compilation should be made. I believe a committee will be appointed for this purpose, which will, without doubt, carry out the spirited arrangement of its predecessors, annually appointed if requested by the administrator of the government, and annually expiring, like its brother committees, in the effort of giving birth to some feasible plan for carrying out so necessary an object.

*Government House.*

9. A house is rented by the colony for the accommodation of the administrator, but it is totally unfurnished. On my arrival I had, at great cost and inconvenience, to purchase every article of furniture; this, probably, is the only colony which does not provide to some extent for the comfort of its chief local officer.

*Constitution.*

10. If, by means of a local enactment, the two houses could be consolidated into one, so as to form a Legislative Council, a portion to be nominated by the Crown, the other portion to be annually or triennially elected, the said Council to hold a short but continuous session in each year, I conceive that great benefit would result to the colony; the Executive has really now not the power, and scarcely any opportunity, to propose or advise measures of reform, or to throw out financial suggestions, and, except to veto the legalizing of any essentially mischievous enactment, remains powerless to effect good.

11. My predecessor appears to have anxiously weighed this subject, and to have been fully impressed with the necessity of an organic change. The material for two houses does not indeed exist. To anticipate "reforms such as altered times may require," evinces a wise forethought; but though under the existing state of parties I am not very sanguine of effecting "such reforms even as changed times do require," my endeavours will not be the less zealous; should they prove unfortunately fruitless, I shall at least possess the knowledge, pleasing to myself, and, I trust, not unsatisfactory to Her Majesty's Government, that I have left no proper and constitutional mode untried to enhance the real interests of my fellow subjects committed in this colony to my care and charge.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) ARTHUR RUMBOLD.

His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief,

&c.

&c.

&c.

NEVIS.

Sub-Enclosure I. in No. 20.

SIR,

Nevis, May 14, 1857.

IN small colonies the leading and influential natives are extremely and painfully jealous of any apparent interference, even though it be of the most passive kind, and confined simply to inquiry on the part of a stranger, into the existing order of things, unless that stranger occupy a position which renders such inquiry or investigation on his part a directly responsible duty; for this reason, having regard to my official position, I have felt it desirable to confine my attention as much as possible simply to the punctual discharge of the duties of my own department, and I am, therefore, unable materially to aid your inquiries. I shall, however, in obedience to your command, submit to you such observations as may occur to me, confident that you accept them with every allowance for their necessary imperfection, under the circumstances which I have stated above.

2. When in the early part of last year, I was, by the Governor-in-Chief's order, unexpectedly directed to repair to Nevis, "for the more efficient discharge of the magisterial duties of the island," it was currently reported among the neighbouring islands, and, I believe, generally apprehended in Nevis, that extensive discontent and dissatisfaction were prevalent among the labouring population, and that disturbances of the public peace were impending, which were likely to call for extraordinary means for their suppression; incendiary fires were expected and had been attempted, and it was deemed necessary to organize by private subscription, in aid of the small police and ordinary constabulary, a night guard for the protection of the town, in order to allay the great and painful anxiety felt by the inhabitants, and it was further seriously feared that the taxes could not be collected, or the laws carried out, without an appeal for military assistance. Whether these fears were at the time well grounded or not, I am not in a position to say, but I can confidently assert that since my arrival here I have seen nothing to justify them; the fears indeed have been removed, the night guard has been dispensed with, and good order is established. Among the idle population of Charlestown indications of the absence of regular police discipline are undoubtedly observable; but nothing like wanton disregard of the law has come under my notice, and were it existent, it could not be hidden from me. From the rural districts I seldom hear of serious complaints, the people seem to me to be on the whole well disciplined and orderly; there are no laws regulating the relation between master and servant, and yet I have reason to believe the duties of that relation are well observed.

3. In physical circumstances the peasantry of Nevis are unquestionably in advance of those in many of the other islands. Money wages is not the general rule, but the exception, and most of the sugar estates are cultivated wholly or in part by what is called share labour, or (improperly) "*Métairie*," and, during the high prices which have ruled of late, the negroes have reaped large rewards for their industry in the cultivation of the soil, but unfortunately in this island there is little opportunity afforded them for profitable investment, otherwise than in the purchase of cattle or other stock, the care of which tends to withdraw them from the more laborious and really more profitable agricultural employments. Savings banks have not been established, and are, indeed, out of the question in a country which does not efficiently or regularly provide for the maintenance of its ordinary and most indispensable civil institutions. A savings bank in Nevis could not command the public faith, and would have no depositors; money, therefore, in the hands of the labourers, not invested in stock, or in the purchase of small allotments of provision ground, is either spent in dress or wasted in dissipation, or else it is hoarded up in secret places, lying idle, and not contributing to the general advance, as capital in circulation would do. With very few exceptions, the negro will not employ his means in the improvement of his dwelling, in the education of his children, or in meeting any of those wants which are so indispensable among more civilized people. The negro, with considerable means at his command, and with regular and steady employment, more than sufficient to provide for the daily material wants of his family, will retain his children dirty and ragged about him, unwilling to contribute the smallest sum for their education and training, and will allow them in sickness to die off without the assistance of any regular medical practitioner, rather than pay the small fee which would be required to provide that assistance. These, however, are universal traits in the negro character, and are by no means confined to the peasantry of Nevis. In other islands means are contributed from the public funds to provide some education for the children of the labouring classes, and in St. Kitts they are provided from the same source, with medical attendance.

4. Nevis is not, indeed, altogether without schools, there being day and Sunday schools aided by any public grant, in connection with the Church of England and with the Wesleyan body, in the several parishes of Saint Paul, Saint Thomas, Saint George, and Saint James, and a Sunday school in connexion with the church in Saint John's; but these schools are not adapted to the wants of a West Indian community, limiting, as they do, the instruction they afford merely to the elementary branches of a literary education. What is here wanted is a well-disciplined industrial school, where reading, writing, and arithmetic would be combined with training to agricultural and mechanical employments. A very small amount of means would be sufficient to put such schools

into operation, and, if properly conducted, they would in a short time become self-supporting, and would afford a most efficient means of securing to the country in future years a body of orderly and industrious peasantry.

The soil of Nevis is extremely fertile, and is well adapted to cane cultivation; and it well repays any expenditure of capital or labour; but the island has suffered, in common with the sister colonies, from causes common to them all;—to inquire into these causes would lead me into a useless and tedious prolixity of detail; they are not obscure, and any one who has had a practical knowledge of West Indian affairs must be fully acquainted with them. Misapplication of the compensation money, mismanagement of the four years predial apprenticeship, and unwise and unfair means of compelling labour at the commencement of the unrestricted freedom, lie at the bottom of the depreciation of property; yet, after all, this depreciation, so loudly complained of, is more apparent than real. Estates are not less productive, nor less remunerative now than formerly, but credit is not so easily obtained nor so extensively given, and the wealth of a West Indian planter is not so ostensible; but it is, I verily believe, more real and sound.

5. I have no other source of information than the Blue Books, but I find from these official documents that the importations into the island of Nevis for the past five years, viz. for the years 1852, 1853, 1854, 1855, and 1856, amounted to the aggregate sum of 118,951*l.*, being an average of 22,790*l.*; but the imports of the last year, 1856, exceeded by nearly 14,000*l.* the highest imports of any of the four preceding years. There can be no reason to believe that this increase is to be attributed to a corresponding increase of trade or otherwise, than to the fact that the abrogation of all import duties has removed the inducement to illicit importation, and led to more faithful returns of the value of articles imported.

The exports for the same quinquennial period, as derived from the same source, amounted to the sum of 162,721*l.*, giving an average of 32,544*l.* per annum. It may be here remarked that the exports for 1856 have been less in amount than during any of the four preceding years; and, although I am not sufficiently conversant with the state of the crops during the several years referred to to speak with confidence on the subject, I am under the impression that the decrease in the value of exports may in part be accounted for by the removal of the export duties having led to a looseness in watching and noting the returns of exported produce. The returns of imports and exports for the period referred to are as follow:—

	Imports.			Exports.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
1852	17,866	12	0	27,689	19	0
1853	20,965	15	0	36,064	12	0
1854	20,933	9	0	32,794	18	0
1855	19,728	6	0	38,976	15	0
1856	34,449	0	0	27,194	15	3

6. The average revenue for the five years above mentioned amounted to 3,474*l.*, which will give, the population being estimated in round numbers at 9,600 souls, the rate of contribution to public exigencies within a fraction of 7s. 3d. per caput.

Returns of births and deaths are so irregular that they afford no reliable data for statistical calculations. The number of marriages, during the five years before referred to, has fluctuated very considerably. The greatest number returned in one year was 163, in 1854, the year after the desolating plague of cholera—a visitation which, in other places besides Nevis, has frightened people into a temporary regard to morality; and, I believe, not only with regard to cholera, but with regard to other fatal pestilences, recorded experience shows that their cessation has been followed rapidly by an increase of births and marriages. Taking the five years together, the annual number of marriages will be seventy-three. In the same period the average births, as collected from the baptismal returns, have borne a proportion of (within a fraction) three per cent. to the population. As all burials are not recorded, any calculation of the rate of mortality founded on the returns is likely to be fallacious; but assuming the correctness of these returns, I find the average rate of mortality to be slightly above one and a half per cent., or about 1·70. In this calculation I have not taken into account the deaths of the cholera year 1853; or, more correctly, I have taken the deaths in that year at the common average of the other four years, namely 163. These calculations, if they approach to accuracy, and I am disposed to think that, relatively considered, they do afford tolerably correct data,—for, as there are unrecorded burials, so there are children unbaptised,—clearly show the population to be on the increase. Emigration, however, is not taken into account; but at present emigration is not active, and many of the labourers who migrate to Trinidad and other places, return, after a time, to Nevis; the population, therefore, is not likely to be materially thinned by this cause.

8. The island is quite capable of yielding, if capital and labour could be brought into operation, double the quantity of its staple productions: indeed there appears now to be at work an industrious spirit of improvement; cultivation appears to be more carefully

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attended to; and a more economical, and, at the same time, more liberal spirit of management is gradually taking the place of the niggardliness and wastefulness which were before so prevalent, and there is ample room to hope for the gradual regeneration of the colony. To promote and ensure this, however, it will be necessary that a wiser legislation should be inaugurated: encouragement must be given to industry, energy, and talents; public faith must be kept with the public creditor; and the institutions of the colony must be put on a more liberal and efficient footing.

9. The inapplicability of the forms of the British constitution to the small West Indian dependencies is obvious; without a sufficient number of men qualified for the duties of the smallest English vestry, the legislation of these islands is distributed among three distinct branches, typical of King, Lords, and Commons. As might be expected, narrowness of view and selfishness of object come commonly into play, and progress is retarded rather than furthered by the measures and influence of such a Legislature. In this colony there is a productive capacity which would enable it to support all the institutions necessary to a civilized community upon a sufficiently effective scale, if a little enlightenment of view and a little abnegation of self could be secured; but, unfortunately, the history of our legislation will show, I fear, that it has been adapted to meet particular and even individual cases, rather than to provide for general exigencies; and one of the first steps necessary for the advancement of the community would be a change in its constitutional forms, and the substitution of a more compact body for the present cumbrous machinery of legislation. It would be vain to hope for such a change, but I am confident, and will be bold enough to express my view, that if the legislation could be committed to the Governor alone, or even to a Governor and Council of nominated officials, independent of and untrammelled by local views and local interests, and responsible only to the Governor-in-Chief, and, through him, to the Government and Parliament at home, the affairs of an island like Nevis would shortly know a vast improvement; but, as so vital a change is not likely to meet with countenance in the island, we may perhaps hope that a conviction of the growing evils of the present system will, at least, induce the Legislature to provide for the consolidation of the two legislative bodies into one chamber, consisting of a smaller number of members (part nominated and part elected), thus securing a unity, and consequently an efficiency of action which cannot be looked for from our now complicated legislative organization.

10. At present the most necessary institutions of the colony are almost altogether unprovided for. I have stated in another part of this Report that the schools are unaided by any legislative grant or other provision from any public fund; they are under no legal or administrative control. The education afforded by them is not directed by any Government or official supervision, nor is it directed, so far as I can learn, into any immediately practical channel. A very small sum of money, which could be raised chiefly from the peasantry themselves, and perhaps by a special tax for the purpose, as in St. Kitts, would enable the Legislature to vest a control over these most important institutions in the local government, and to turn them to a good account. At present, reading and writing, especially if accompanied by a little arithmetic, are regarded rather as entitling the possessor to an exemption from honest labour than as aids to practical usefulness and moral elevation. The religious instruction afforded too, it will be found, consists more in the repetition of verbal answers to set questions than in the cultivation of the moral qualities, or the real enlightenment of the mind to the duties and responsibilities of life. By raising the necessary funds by a special tax, rather than by making them a charge upon the general revenue, the negro would, I believe, be to some extent more readily induced to send his children to the schools; for the negro likes to have value for his money, and he would be anxious most likely to secure, by the regular attendance of his children at school, what he would consider his full share of the returns for the money taken from him by the tax gatherer. If possible, it would be desirable to provide rewards or prizes, payable in money, to the children for their regular attendance, and this would, by acting on the parents' cupidity, as effectually secure the regular attendance of the children as any law providing for a compulsory attendance. Some such inducement will too, I think, be more particularly necessary in an island where the share or meta system prevails to the extent it does in Nevis. The labourer makes use of his children in the cultivation of his cane field,—cupidity is a leading feature in the negro character,—and he is not willing, without some inducement in the shape of a visible return, to part, even for a limited time, with that which he finds immediately profitable, and regards as his right. The prospective advantage to the child cannot be expected to weigh much with a parent utterly ignorant himself, and unable therefore to appreciate the advantages of education. It is to be feared, too, that even the better-informed classes in these islands are not alive to the value of a sound practical education of the labouring classes in a social and economical point of view.

11. I do not place much reliance on the school returns, as I have observed elsewhere (for my experience in Nevis is very limited) that there is a tendency on the part of the parties making these returns to swell the numbers; but if the returns be correct, the average number of children annually under instruction in the several day schools, for the past five years, has been 770, giving a proportion of about eight per cent. (8·10) to the population. The returns do not enable me to distinguish the sexes.

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12. There are, in this island, five parish churches under the ministration of three clergymen, the parishes of Saint John and Saint George, and those of Saint Thomas and Saint James being united. These clergymen are all holders of sugar estates, and as their stipends are not regularly paid from the Treasury, much of the time which should be directed to the spiritual oversight of their cures is necessarily given to the management of their private properties, and they cannot exert that moral influence over the people which would attach to the full exercise of their pastoral office. There are three Wesleyan chapels served, at present, by one missionary from England, with the assistance of the usual local preachers. Another minister is promised, but has not yet arrived.

13. I ought, perhaps, to glance at a sect of professed religionists extant in this island, and peculiar to it—the "Nonlites." I have been unable to obtain much information concerning these people, nor have I had an opportunity of personally observing their religious rites. I cannot learn that they hold any distinctive creed on doctrinal points, though they claim prophetic inspiration, and pretend to a familiar intercourse with the world of spirits. They marry and baptize their children in the churches and chapels, but assemble together in a separate congregation for religious worship, of which salutation is said to form a prominent feature. In their discipline they insist on frequent abstinences, abstinence from intoxicating liquors, and from the use of tobacco; concubinage is forbidden, and monogamy is inculcated. They have recently purchased an allotment of land, for the erection of a place of worship.

14. The common goal and house of correction, which was burnt down in August last, has not been rebuilt; and the only place of confinement for prisoners is afforded by the cells formed within the archway of the stone gallery, which ran along the western entrance of the old building. These cells are not adapted to the purpose to which they have of necessity been applied; and, in the case of a debtor or misdemeanant of the first class, the confinement would entail a degree of punishment not contemplated by law, and not, indeed, to be tolerated in a civilized community under any circumstances short of the absolute necessity for some temporary means of maintaining civil order and the enforcement of civil duties and contracts. There is no hospital or sick ward, and it has been found necessary to release sick prisoners because of the impossibility of applying curative treatment. In the case of criminals the Executive has, of course, the power, by the remission of the imprisonment, to do this; but in case of the serious illness of a debtor under execution at the suit of an obdurate creditor, an embarrassing difficulty might arise. The subject of providing a new prison has been urged on the attention of the legislative branches by the Executive, and a committee to consider the subject has been appointed; but there is too much reason to fear that, under the present system of legislation, progress in this important measure will be, notwithstanding the vigorous application of the executive spur, as in almost every other case, slow. The destruction of the old prison by fire has only rendered more apparent the necessity for a new goal. The former one was not adapted to its purpose; it had formerly been a large barrack, built for the accommodation of soldiers. It was situated in one of the most pleasant spots in the neighbourhood of Charlestown, commanding a beautiful land and marine view, surrounded by an open space of green turf, unenclosed, and free on all sides to communication with visitors and strangers; and the prisoners under sentence could scarcely be said to be deprived of liberty, there being no means of effectually controlling communication with the exterior. Imprisonment, therefore, had no deterring operation on the idle and criminal population, who were too apt to regard a short imprisonment, such as the magistrates have power to award on summary conviction, rather as an agreeable variety from the tedium of their ordinary life than as a penal restriction. It has, therefore, been said that the burning of the goal was rather a public benefit than a public injury; but this is a popular mistake, for the prisoners can only be confined during the night, and must, of necessity, from the intense heat of the cells under exposure to the sun, be released during the day. There has indeed been a marked diminution in the number of commitments lately, but this I do not attribute in any great degree to severer punishment now attending the imprisonment, but rather to a greater care on the part of the magistrates to give effect to the law of the island regulating summary convictions before justices of the peace, taken from the Act of the Imperial Parliament 11 & 12 Vict. cap. 43, commonly called Jervis's Act, whereby justices of the peace are enabled to order the collection of fines and costs by warrant of distress. This provision of the Act does not seem to have been acted upon previous to the arrival here of the second stipendiary magistrate. Courts of Petty Session have too, since this arrangement, been held more punctually, and as so much time has not been lost as formerly in prosecuting complaints, the people have been induced to take their differences before the magistrate, rather than to right themselves by the strong hand; hence there have been fewer cases of aggravated assault, and fewer cases are taken, therefore, before the Superior Court, justice being more prompt, and, if I am rightly informed, its summary administration commanding more respect and confidence. There is still room, however, for improvement in the summary Courts, and I am of opinion that their efficiency would be greatly increased if, instead of the present Petty Sessions, Police Courts were established, with enlarged jurisdiction, extending to petty trespasses, contracts between master and servant, and with power to compel husbands and parents to maintain their wives and

13. The provision afforded by legislative grant to the support of the poor and infirm is utterly insufficient. There is a small building situated at the northern entrance to Charlestown, and called the "asylum"; but the sum granted, including out-door pensioners, for its support—150*l.* sterling—is quite inadequate to meet the claims of the unfortunate class for whose relief it is intended. The institution is not provided with proper nurses, nor is there any medical officer attached to it. A surgeon is called in on any special emergency, chiefly when casualties occur requiring some of the major operations of surgery. The asylum is not under any proper control and supervision, and were it not for the charitable exertions of private individuals, and chiefly of Mr. Iles, whose watchful and zealous guardianship keeps it alive, it would entirely fall to the ground. The neglect of this institution illustrates the somnolency of colonial legislators, and their apathetic indifference to some of the most important duties and obligations devolving upon them, and will, I think, go to strengthen my argument in favour of a change in the legislative constitution of the island. The Executive Government has practically no voice in the initiation of measures of good government, and thus questions not affecting the individual interest of legislators are apt to be disregarded. "*Amor patriæ*" is not a West Indian sentiment. It would be otherwise if, as in the Crown colonies, a governor directly responsible to the Imperial Government had a voice in originating measures providing for the wants of the community, instead of, as at present, a mere controlling power over had legislation by the exercise of a veto.

16. The laws of Nevis are not printed, and can only be known to judges and magistrates by reference to the manuscript copies in the secretaries office. They are not indexed, and it is a matter of some difficulty to find out whether a particular Act, or a particular provision of some enactment, has or has not been repealed. Legislation, too, appears to be cumulative in some and contravening in other instances; some of its provisions are, to say the least, unsuited to the present day. I would refer, for instance, to a case which lately came before me; the charge was one of *obeah*, an offence very common in this island, and leading in many instances to other offences of a most serious nature; and in the case to which I allude there was every reason to believe that an attempt has been made to poison, by the introduction of some deleterious material (arsenic it was supposed) into a tank of water kept for family use; this, however, could not be established, as the tank had been emptied of its contents and washed out before information reached the magistrates, so no prosecution for an attempt to poison could be supported; and on referring to the law, I found that the offence of *obeah* was triable before two magistrates, and the punishment was death, and death only, on their order. It will be needless to say, that the magistrates deemed the law practically obsolete, and allowed the case to drop as quietly as they could; but that such an Act should, by its retention on the Statute Book, be permitted to disgrace a civilized community, seems to me so incredible, that although I know the fact to be incontrovertibly true, I can scarcely believe it myself. In short, the criminal law of Nevis calls loudly for revision and consolidation. At present it is merely a collection of indistinguishably confused materials.

<sup>61</sup> A rude and undigested mass.

A lifeless lump, unfashioned and unframed.

Of jarring seeds, and justly Chaos called.

17. The executive arrangement for combining the office of Chief Justice of Nevis with that of St. Christopher must, in the absence of all suitable provisions for the local support of a professional gentleman duly qualified by learning, ability, and standing to fill the important position, be highly beneficial to the community; and there can be no doubt that this arrangement will tend to promote good order and to strengthen and confirm the people in the purity of the general administration of the judicial department.

18. The islands are separated by a very narrow channel; access to each other is attended by no difficulty, and a more intimate union, if practicable, by the junction of the two islands into one colony would perhaps promote the interest of both. I should fear that in referring to this subject, I was going beyond my own province, were it not that your Excellency has done me the honour to invite me to an unrestrained exposition of my views. I can only hint cursorily at the subject, but I venture to suggest it as one worthy the attention of a Governor taking deep interest in the welfare of the colony over which he has been called to preside.

I have, for

(Signed) ISIDORE P. L. DYETT.

President Sir Arthur Rumbold, Bart.

Acc.

Inc.

and

# STATE OF HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS. 127

Sub-Enclosure 2. in No. 20.

REVUE.

## A.

1847.	1848.	1849.	1850.	1851.	Total.	Average.
REVENUE.						
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
3,927 0 2	3,211 12 7	3,039 9 11	3,202 13 4	3,755 16 8	19,190 12 9	3,838 2 6
EXPENDITURE.						
5,592 2 9	2,724 19 6	2,853 1 1	3,539 1 10	3,736 6 5	18,185 12 5	3,637 2 5

1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.	Total.	Average.
REVENUE.						
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
3,601 2 7	3,065 18 9	4,252 8 5	3,442 19 11	3,430 7 3	17,782 15 7	3,556 11 1
EXPENDITURE.						
3,688 12 1	3,265 15 9	4,220 7 10	3,132 14 2	3,265 0 6	17,572 10 4	3,514 10 0

N.B.—The apparent excess in the Revenue and Expenditure of 1847 is to be accounted for by part of a loan from Her Majesty's Government of 2,400*l.* for reconstructing public buildings thrown down by the earthquake of 1845.

## B.

### QUINQUENNIAL AVERAGES.

1847-51.	1852-56.	Total.	Average.
REVENUE.			
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
3,838 2 6	3,536 11 1	7,374 13 7	3,687 6 9
EXPENDITURE.			
3,637 2 5	3,514 10 0	7,151 12 6	3,575 16 3

## C.

### REVENUE.

Import.	Package.	Export.	Home, Land, and Income Tax.	Horse, Cart, Carriage, and Road Compo- sition.	Sugar Estates.	Canees.	Cattle.	Liquor Licences.	Fines.	Total.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
431 7 7	41 17 1	66 15 1	779 11 6	119 6 6	1,215 0 9	42 9 9	125 3 3	160 0 0	91 14 0	3,075 1 2

### EXPENDITURE.

Civil.	Judicial.	Eccle- sistical.	Police.	Genl.	Repayment of Loans.	Roads.	Poor Relief.	Sanitary Purposes.	Total.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
799 3 6	314 11 0	692 0 11	164 2 2	538 10 2	345 9 3	123 6 9	122 0 0	22 9 9	3,200 6 10

NEVIS.

## D.

1847.	1848.	1849.	1850.	1851.	Total.	Average.
IMPORTS.						
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
37,103 1 9	21,261 2 3	16,080 0 0	16,474 7 8	16,483 19 11	107,402 11 7	21,480 10 5½
EXPORTS.						
78,405 15 1	25,509 1 11	30,294 14 8	17,197 14 6	35,012 5 0	184,493 11 2	36,898 14 2½
1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.	Total.	Average.
IMPORTS.						
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
17,866 12 0	20,975 15 0	20,933 9 0	19,728 6 0	34,449 6 4	113,953 8 4	22,790 13 8
EXPORTS.						
27,685 19 0	36,064 12 0	32,794 18 0	38,976 15 0	27,194 15 3	162,720 19 3	32,544 3 10

## E.

## QUINQUENNIAL AVERAGES.

1847-51.	1852-56.	Total.	Average.
IMPORTS.			
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
21,480 10 3½	22,790 13 8	44,271 3 11½	22,135 11 11½
EXPORTS.			
36,898 14 2½	32,544 3 10	69,442 11 11½	34,721 9 0½

## F.

RETURN of the Number of Persons committed to Goal during a period of 16 months, from January 1, 1856, to April 30, 1857.

1856-57.	Natives.	English.	Foreigners.	Total.	Sentenced to Hard Labour.	Committed by Magistrates.	Committed by Courts of Queen's Bench, &c.	Debtors.
January -	7	—	—	7	3	4	—	—
February -	12	—	—	12	11	1	4	—
March -	18	—	—	18	1	8	—	1
April -	8	—	—	8	—	—	—	—
May -	10	1	—	11	1	—	—	1
June -	16	—	—	16	4	7	2	—
July -	20	—	—	20	1	9	1	—
August -	17	—	—	17	12	6	—	—
September -	11	—	—	11	3	8	—	—
October -	12	—	—	12	2	3	1	—
November -	7	—	—	7	1	3	—	—
December -	8	—	—	8	4	5	1	—
January -	7	—	—	7	2	2	—	—
February -	6	—	—	6	1	2	—	—
March -	6	—	—	6	1	4	—	1
April -	6	—	—	6	1	2	1	—

Mr. A. ILES, Private Secretary.



## VIRGIN ISLANDS.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

No. 21.

No. 21.

COPY of a DESPATCH from GOVERNOR HAMILTON to the Right Honourable  
H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 48.)

Leeward Islands, Antigua,

May 8, 1857.

(Received June 2, 1857.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the "Blue Book" of the Virgin Islands for the year 1856, with a Despatch of the President enclosing a Report drawn up in reference to these returns by Mr. Pedder, who administered the Government during the period occurring between the departure of Mr. Kortright and the arrival of the present President.

No. 10, 25 March 1857.

2. As was represented on a former occasion, the proximity of St. Thomas to the Virgin Islands has a marked effect on the habits of the population of these islands, rendering them unsettled and roving; and the past year has witnessed a manifestation, although on this occasion unimportant, of an inclination to turbulence.

3. The transactions of one year are so similar to those of another in these islands that their condition does not require further report.

I have, &amp;c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) KER B. HAMILTON.

Enclosure in No. 21.

Encl. in No. 21.

COPY of a DESPATCH from President PRICE to GOVERNOR HAMILTON.

(No. 10.)

Government House, Tortola,

March 25, 1857.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book of 1856, together with a Report drawn up at my request by the Hon. R. G. Pedder, member of the Executive Council, and lately in the Administration of the Government of the Virgin Islands during the period intervening between Mr. Kortright's departure and my own arrival.

2. My own experiences during the short period of three weeks which has transpired since the latter date were, in my opinion, insufficient to authorize me to remark upon circumstances which required a closer observation than I have necessarily been able to devote to them. I, therefore, availed myself of Mr. Pedder's willing services rather than transmit such a compendium without a Report.

I have, &amp;c.

His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief,  
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) T. PRICE.

Sub-Enclosure in No. 21.

In order to give a clear exposition of the financial condition of the colony for the past year, I have annexed a statement shewing the fixed and incidental revenue and expenditure, and the relative balances for the years 1855 and 1856, by which there appears a deficiency in the revenue of 1856 of 159*l.* 3*s.* 8½*d.*

By the provisions of the Poor Law Ordinance now in operation, there is a fixed grant of 100*l.* sterling for the maintenance of the poor, and further allowance for a matron of the infirmary, and for nourishment for such of the inmates of that establishment as may require it.

It is not likely that the expenditure in this department under the present arrangements will exceed 130*l.*, which will be a reduction of at least 70*l.* per annum upon the former establishment. A suite of rooms belonging to the premises formerly occupied by the poor having been converted into an infirmary, it is contemplated to fit up the main building for a court house, by which a saving of 40*l.* per annum will be effected. Even with these reductions it

R

**VIRGIN ISLANDS.** would still appear that the revenue is inadequate to the requirements of the colony, although it may be remarked, that the receipts under the head of incidental have been unusually small, while items of an extraordinary character appear on the side of expenditure.

			£	s.	d.
Balance in hand, 1st January 1846	-	-	134	4	1½
Less balance on old estimate, poor and infirm, while at Kingston	-	-	40	8	0½
Available balance	-	-	98	16	1
Fixed revenue for 1856	-	£1,196	13	1½	
„ expenditure	-	885	0	8½	
Balance	-	311	12	5½	
Incidental revenue	-	228	8	5	
Expenditure	-	628	12	10½	
Deficiency	-	400	4	5½	
Total revenue, including balance 1846.	4s. 1½d.	-	1,559	5	8
„ expenditure, including arrears, 1855	-	-	1,554	1	7½
Balance in hand	-	-	5	4	0½
Due public officers to 31st December 1856	-	-	70	11	8
Less balance in hand	-	-	5	4	0½
			65	7	7½
Available balance from 1st January 1856	-	-	98	16	1
Total deficiency of revenue raised in year 1856	-	-	159	3	8½

There have been ten Ordinances passed by the Legislative Council during the year, viz. :—

- “ An Ordinance for appointing Pound-Keepers and Pounds, and for regulating “ the same.”
- “ An Ordinance to oblige Creditors to pay a daily Sum to their Debtors “ confined in the Common Gaol, as and for Maintenance during Confine- “ ment.”
- “ An Ordinance for further improving the Administration of Criminal “ Justice.”
- “ An Ordinance to reduce the Rate of Interest in these Islands.”
- “ An Ordinance for the Management of Salt Ponds.”
- “ An Ordinance to amend an Act entitled ‘ An Act to provide for the “ appointment of one or more Sub-Treasurer or Sub-Treasurers to aid and “ assist the Treasurer of the Virgin Islands in the Collection of the Revenue “ of the said Islands.’ ”
- “ An Ordinance for the Relief of the Poor of these Islands, and for regulating “ the Distribution of such Relief.”
- “ An Ordinance declaratory that the Term ‘ Chief Judge,’ or ‘ Chief Justice,’ “ or ‘ Assistant Justice’ of the Court of Common Pleas, used in any Act “ or Ordinance of the Virgin Islands, shall be construed to mean the “ Chief Judge or Assistant Judges respectively of the General Court and “ for the Virgin Islands.”
- “ An Ordinance to appropriate the Revenue of the Virgin Islands.”
- “ An Ordinance to establish a Court for the Administration of Justice in “ Civil and Criminal Matters in the Virgin Islands.”

With respect to the Ordinance for the management of salt ponds, it is to be hoped that in the present year some beneficial results will be obtained by the operation of the new law. The month of May being the usual season for reaping the salt crops, the inhabitants of the several islands will then have an opportunity of applying their energies to the improvement of the ponds, which, with some amount of labour and attention, and under the protection afforded by this law, may be rendered a fruitful source of profit.

On the reappointment of a Sub-Treasurer, the sphere of duty of that officer was wisely fixed at the west end of the Island of Tortola, by which arrangement facilities are afforded to parties trading from that neighbourhood to procure clearances, and enter vessels taking cargoes to and from the Island of St. Thomas, and has had the effect of checking the intolerable practice of evading the payment of Export Duties in that part of Tortola and the islands adjacent.

Under the ordinance for the relief of the poor a complete change has been accomplished in that department. The expense of maintaining the poor under the former Poor Law Act was considerably greater than the finances of the country could afford, and it was, therefore, expedient that some other mode of relief should be adopted by which the expenditure should be diminished, but due regard had to the future support of the inmates of the asylum. When the new law came into operation most of the inmates were discharged with a weekly allowance, varying according to the state of health of the several individuals, and their ability to contribute to their own maintenance by manual labour.

An infirmary has been established, where surgical or medical aid is afforded to persons requiring such, and a few of the inmates of the former establishment have been retained, and receive the necessary attention.

The first Court under the New Court Ordinance at which cases were disposed of was held in the month of November, and its operation has been attended with very satisfactory results. By facilitating the proceedings of the Court, abolishing the grand jury, and thereby furnishing a much more intelligent and respectable body of men to act as petit jurors, and by relieving the jurors from much tedious and unnecessary attendance and loss of time, it has worthily elicited high commendations from all classes of the community.

There are two day schools in Tortola, in connexion with the Church of England, and one in Tortola, and another at Jost Van Dykes, under the superintendence of the Wesleyan Missionary Society.

There are also three Sunday Schools belonging to each of these establishments.

Another day school is in course of being established at Virgin Gorda under the auspices of the Church of England. It is very gratifying to be able to observe that the labouring population appear fully sensible of the advantages of education to their children, and that the latter manifest a great desire to benefit by the opportunity afforded them.

To be able to report favourably on the subject of crime for the past year affords me much happiness.

The calendar for the month of November shows a large addition to the number of criminals; but this was owing to the circumstance that the offences of which persons were convicted before the Court of November, had been spread over a period of twelve or fifteen months, in consequence of no Court having been held for that space of time.

The most heinous offence then dealt with was committed by a coloured woman, who, from feelings of jealousy towards a respectable female of the same complexion, incited others to the too frequently adopted crime of arson, and otherwise to destroy the property of the victim of her vile passion. This person was convicted under three separate indictments at the same Court.

The prison is in good order; but the solitary cells, which are apart from the main building, have been pronounced by the surgeon of the establishment as unfit to be occupied, owing to the dampness of the walls.

The labouring class throughout the islands have been generally orderly and quiet, and the only act of insubordination noted for the past year was committed by some persons at Thatch Island, who resisted constables in the execution of their duty; but prompt and energetic measures having been instantly adopted by the Government, they were soon quieted, and have been subsequently punished. On this occasion the rural constabulary of Tortola manifested great zeal and readiness to assist the authorities in suppressing the spirit of insubordination, and justly merit the approbation of the Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. G. PEDDER.

Tortola,  
March 24, 1857.

DOMINICA.

DOMINICA.

No. 22.

No. 22.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor KER B. HAMILTON  
to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 11.)

Leeward Islands, Antigua, May 8, 1857.

SIR,

(Received June 2, 1857.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book of Dominica for the year 1856, with the accompanying report of Lieutenant Governor Blackall.

2. This island, in common with others in the Leeward Islands' government, shows an increase of imports and an improvement in trade.

3. These features, however, are differently accounted for; while by some the increase of imports is attributed to the removal of all tax on imported merchandize, it is maintained by others, as in this Report, that a moderate import duty has no perceptible influence on trade.

4. I have endeavoured, as much as possible, not to interfere with financial arrangements, leaving it to the inhabitants of each government, through their authorized representatives, to adopt that system of taxation which may seem to them the best adapted to the colony. But I have sought to induce the colonists generally to adopt a permanent system of taxation, the necessity of which is beginning to be acknowledged by them.

5. The increased value of the chief exports of these colonies is renewing the hopes and expectations of the inhabitants, and again exciting enterprise.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, (Signed) KER B. HAMILTON.  
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 22.

Enclosure in No 22.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor BLACKALL to  
his Excellency the GOVERNOR IN CHIEF.

(No. 27.)

Government House, Roseau,  
April 28, 1857.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency the Blue Book for the year 1856, in triplicate.

Finance. 2. It is with much pleasure that I refer to the results shown in regard to the financial state of this colony by these returns, fully bearing out as they do my anticipations expressed in my report last year.

Revenue. 3. Not only is there a very considerable increase in the amount of revenue, but there is an equally marked improvement in the amount of imports, proving I think conclusively that, although it was found necessary to increase the duties on the importation of certain articles, the amounts have not tended to discourage commerce or trade, which have been steadily increasing.

4. Another gratifying feature in our present financial system is, the permanence of the general taxation. When I undertook the duties of administering the government here in 1851 I found all taxes imposed annually, with the exception of the duties leviable upon imports and tonnage; at this moment we have the above duties, rum duties, and a house tax permanently established, which raise sufficient revenue for the ordinary expenditure of the colony. With this year will expire an Act imposing duties on exports, a tax upon incomes, horses, dogs, &c., but some of which must be re-imposed for the purpose of meeting the extraordinary expenditure, and from which Act I trust the legislature will select the least objectionable imposts, and re-enact them in a permanent form; but I do not anticipate under any circumstances a return of the financial difficulties to which this island has been long subject.

Expenditure.

5. The expenditure here has long been remarkable for its economy, carried perhaps in some instances to an unwise extent. I have always advocated the judicious expenditure each year of a certain sum for the upholding and repair of public buildings, and prosecution of public works, but both have been hitherto retarded from the want of funds. We are now consequently obliged to incur considerably more expense for the former purposes, and to postpone

the execution of some valuable new works; but the past and present year will have witnessed our market house repaired, a new Government house built, a custom house belonging to the colony established (the present building being rented), whilst liberal grants have been made for the repairs of houses of worship, both Protestant and Roman Catholic.

6. A reference to the tables in the paper marked A, appended to this report, will at once exhibit the difference of the absolute receipts and expenditure of the two years 1855 and 1856, and the causes which may be supposed to have led to the results therein described. These tables have been drawn with much care by the Auditor General, and the increase of expenditure, it will be seen, may at once be accounted for under two items,—one the miscellaneous expenditure, created by the buildings and repairs to which I have adverted, exceeding the former year by 808*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.*; the other the increase in the amount of poor relief in the sum of 323*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.*

7. But in reviewing the items which, from the increase of the revenue from 7,356*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.* in 1855 to 12,918*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.* in 1856, or fully two thirds, it is gratifying to observe that the increase is not in the main owing to any additional taxation. The taxes leviable during the two years were the same, with the exception of certain import duties, which were increased towards the close of 1855; but the total value of goods imported under an ad valorem duty in 1856 will be found to be 24,190*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.* against 10,548*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.* in 1855, being more than double, whilst the specific duties will also be found to have increased from 2,530*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.* to 3,788*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.*; about one half.

8. Nor does this, I am happy to say, appear to have been a mere temporary improvement. The first quarter of this year shows a steady amount of trade, and these hopeful appearances are well supported by the prospect of a plentiful crop and remunerating prices, and I shall indeed be much disappointed if the close of this year does not witness this island in a fairly solvent condition, both as regards the public finances and the general condition of the proprietors.

9. It has never been my wish in these annual reports to give too high a colouring to the state or prospects of the colony. I have never concealed my opinion of the many improvements which are required in the social condition of the inhabitants, nor respecting the deficiency in legislation, and the cause of it; and if now, after considerable experience, I may venture an opinion as to the causes which have, through any instrumentality of mine, led to improvements, I would point to a fixed determination, from which I have never swerved, to ensure as far as possible the strict administration of justice, and respect for the rights of property, more especially in the repression of the illegal possession of land; and I feel satisfied that a steady perseverance in that course, in all islands similarly circumstanced to this, as regards waste lands, will contribute much more to their prosperity than importing coolies or Chinese at an exorbitant expense.

10. But, in pursuing this course, I have never shut out, even from the humblest individual, the hope that he may, by honest industry, acquire for himself an interest in the soil. Whenever villages had been originally established, or small lots of lands were for sale which had reverted to the Crown, I have established a scale of price for the purchase which has enabled the labourer to become proprietor, only stipulating that the lot granted shall be well defined, and the purchase duly recorded, so as to prevent disputes hereafter.

11. I have endeavoured equally to check what was becoming a crying evil here,—the taking possession of Crown lands without right or title. At first I met with much opposition and misrepresentation, but few will now be found not ready to allow, that, for the advantage of the people themselves, it is better that what they occupy should be occupied legally; that the withdrawing of numbers from their natural occupations as field labourers is an evil, not only directly to the planter who would employ them, but to society in general; that their own civilization is thereby retarded, as they are content with a bare existence and the enjoyments of a semi-barbarous life, whilst they do not contribute in any way to the general prosperity or income of the colony.

12. It has been with much satisfaction I have found that the complaints of want of labour have been diminishing from year to year, and that I am at present assured there is a fair supply on all the estates in the island.

13. This evidence of industrial habits on the part of the bulk of the population is corroborated by the general absence of crime of any alarming nature. The

Comparative  
Revenue and  
Expenditure of  
the last two years.

General state and  
prospects of the  
colony.

Crime.

## DOMINICA.

addresses of the present Chief Justice to the grand jury on the two occasions on which he has presided at Grand Sessions bear testimony to this fact, and they also contrast favourably with the remarks on the same subject in some of the neighbouring islands, and the result is a greater amount of general comfort and independence amongst the labouring class than in any similar grade of any community with whom I have been brought in contact.

## Efforts of the clergy.

14. To the zeal and energy also of the clergy of the several denominations must be attributed much of the good order and good feeling which prevail; but, as the bulk of the population is of the Roman Catholic persuasion, it is on the ministers of that religion the chief responsibility rests. A resident curé is appointed in nearly every parish in the island, supported entirely by voluntary contributions, there being no allowance made by the colony. Their devotion to the well-doing of those intrusted to them is deserving of great praise, and the efforts made under the able and sensible guidance of the Vicar-general, Dr. Smith, who resides in Roseau, have contributed much to the improvement of the population, and the infusion of a spirit of loyalty and obedience to the laws,—from which, it has been proved by recent events, it would be difficult to seduce them. I do not intend by these remarks in the least to underrate the value of the services of the Protestant rector of Roseau, or of the dissenting ministers.

## Education.

15. The education of the rising generation has always occupied a very prominent amount of attention combined with liberality of the legislative bodies; unfortunately here, as elsewhere, difficulties have been raised, upon what I cannot but designate imaginary dangers, which seriously threaten the success of any measure; but I trust before the end of this year some arrangement may be arrived at which, while ensuring due supervision, may give encouragement to the various ministers of religion to advance and foster both the secular and religious instruction of the lower orders of their several flocks.

## Jail discipline.

16. I think I may refer with some confidence to the paper marked B, appended to this report, as a proof that the jail discipline here is of a restraining or reformatory character. It will appear, by inspection of that paper, that out of ninety-nine persons convicted at Grand Sessions during my administration here, only eight have returned to prison a second time, and only one more than twice; and the conduct of prisoners in general in the jail is of a satisfactory character; and I have found occasional clemency, after culprits have had some experience of the inconveniences of a prison life, to have an excellent effect upon their future conduct.

## Legislation.

17. The legislation of the past year has been productive of some good, but still it is much confined to matters of finance. I have so often and so fully explained my views on this subject that I do not think it necessary to dwell upon it.

## Returns not accurate.

18. The Returns comprised in the Blue Book will, I believe, be found complete and in accordance with the instructions, excepting those respecting the imports, exports, and shipping. I append, in a paper marked C, a letter which I have received from the Treasurer, explaining the causes of some deviation in these returns from the printed forms, and though I cannot agree in all the conclusions at which that officer has arrived, as an excuse for this irregularity, yet I am aware that he has encountered some difficulty from the late period last year at which it was intimated that the forms would be altered.

## Concluding remarks.

19. In concluding this report I by no means intend to assert that this island is on the high road to any unlimited prosperity, but I maintain that it possesses the elements of progressive improvement if carefully governed. Energy in all the public departments, and the example of the upper classes in restraining their passions, obeying the laws, and respecting authority, will soon have its effect on a well-behaved and impressible population, such as we have to deal with here; the former may be ensured by due executive supervision, but the latter of course must depend upon the good sense and good taste of those who claim to possess the confidence of the people, and to be the exponents of public opinion.

I have, &c.

(Signed)      SAM'L. W. BLACKALL,  
His Excellency the Governor in Chief,      Lieut. Governor.

&c.      &c.      &c.

## A.

A STATEMENT showing the EXPENDITURE of DOMINICA for the Year ended the 31st day of December 1856, as compared with the Expenditure for the Year ended the 31st day of December 1855.

Heads of Expenditure.	Years ending							
	1st December 1855.		31st December 1856.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Salaries - - - -	5,004	12 8	4,869	3 11	—	—	135	8 9
Pensions - - - -	67	12 1	67	12 1	—	—	—	—
Drawbacks - - - -	172	10 4	75	19 6	—	—	96	10 10
Gaols - - - -	199	18 3	323	17 1	123	18 10	—	—
Inquests - - - -	210	15 1	226	13 11	15	18 10	—	—
Constables - - - -	139	19 3	200	10 6	60	11 3	—	—
Poor Relief - - - -	1,138	10 5	1,462	2 8	323	12 3	—	—
Medical - - - -	10	4 2	7	7 0	—	—	2	17 2
Educational - - - -	800	0 0	800	0 0	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous - - - -	863	4 2	1,671	14 0	808	9 10	—	—
Roads - - - -	637	19 5	700	12 0	62	12 7	—	—
Ordnance Property - - - -	—	—	35	15 5	35	15 5	—	—
Excise (Pay and Allowances of Officers) - - - - }	—	—	45	15 4	45	15 4	—	—
	9,245	5 10	10,487	3 5	1,476	14 4	234	16 9
Deduct Decrease - - - -	—	—	—	—	234	16 9	—	—
Increase of Expenditure in 1856 as compared with 1855 - £	1,241 17 7							

## REMARKS.

*Salaries.*—The decrease under this head arises from the office of Chief Justice having been vacant for two months, and that of Superintendent of Police for nine months.

*Gaols.*—The increase under this head may principally be attributed to the high price of provision supplied for the prisoners in 1856.

*Poor Relief.*—The increase under this head may be set down to the facility with which persons can be placed on the pauper list under the present poor law.

*Miscellaneous.*—The increase under this head is occasioned chiefly by the repairs to public buildings now in progress.

*Ordnance Property and Excise.*—The expenditure under these heads appears for the first time in this account.

The difference under the other heads requires no comment.

The debt due by the colony at the end of 1855, exclusive of the Government loan, was 4,290*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.* The debt due at the end of 1856, exclusive of the said loan, was 1,110*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.*

MACNAMARA DIX,  
Audit. General.

DOMINICA.

A STATEMENT showing the REVENUE of DOMINICA for the Year ended the 31st day of December 1856, as compared with the Revenue for the Year ended the 31st day of December 1855.

Sources of Revenue.	Years ending									
	31st December 1855.			31st December 1856.			Increase.	Decrease.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.			£	s.
Import Duties	3,382	15	6	6,207	5	1	2,824	9	7	—
Tonnage Duty	673	16	0	686	8	0	12	12	0	—
Exports	1,095	2	2	1,107	2	7	12	0	5	—
Incomes, Male Servants, Horses, and Dogs	816	18	9	869	10	3	52	11	6	—
Canoe Licences	127	9	0	113	10	6	—	—	—	13 18 6
Seine Licences	28	7	9	25	12	5	—	—	—	2 15 4
Auctioneer Licences	5	0	0	5	0	0	—	—	—	—
House Tax	67	6	1	940	16	7	873	10	6	—
Rum Duties	931	13	2	1,325	1	11	393	8	9	—
" Road Act, 1856 "	—	—	—	1,317	17	10	1,317	17	10	—
Ordnance Property	—	—	—	87	4	0	87	4	0	—
Miscellaneous	208	6	0	233	5	2	24	19	2	—
	7,336	14	5	12,918	14	4	5,586	13	9	16 13 10
Deduct Decrease	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	13	10	—
							£ 5,581	19	11	

## REMARKS.

The increase under the head of " Import Duties " is to a certain extent attributable to the increase in the rate of duty from 7½ per cent. to 10 per cent. on all non-enumerated goods, except machinery and plantation stores. The Act under which the latter rate is levied is permanent, and took effect on the 4th September 1855; whilst, therefore, it has been in operation for the whole of 1856, it affected the imports of one quarter—the last—of 1855 only. As the total amount of duty collected in 1856, however, is nearly double that of 1855, whilst the increased rate of duty is but one third, the increase in the amount collected must be attributed chiefly to more extensive importations, induced, it may be assumed, by the increasing prosperity of the island.

This view will in a great measure be borne out by the following statement:—

	1855.			
	7½ per Cent. ad valorem.		Specific and other Duties.	Total Duty collected.
	Value.	Duty.		
First 3 Quarters of the Year	£ 8,101 8 4	£ 607 12 1	£ 1,964 7 0	£ 2,571 19 1
	10 per Cent. ad valorem.			
Last Quarter of the Year	2,447 11 2	244 15 2	566 1 3	810 16 5
Total for the Year	10,548 19 6	852 7 3	2,530 8 3	3,382 15 6
	1856.			
First 3 Quarters of the Year	10,291 12 4	1,029 3 3	2,668 13 6	4,297 16 9
Last Quarter of the Year	7,898 16 1	789 17 7	1,119 10 9	1,909 8 4
Total for the Year	24,190 8 5	2,419 0 10	3,788 4 3	6,207 5 1



**House Tax.**—The increase under this head is occasioned by the collection for 1855 having been unavoidably postponed to the early part of 1856, so that in the latter year the tax for two years was received.

**Rum Duties.**—The increase under this head may principally be set down to the greater powers of Excise supervision given by the "Rum Duty Act, 1856."

**"Road Act, 1856, and Ordnance Property."**—The receipts under these heads appear for the first time in this account.

The difference in the receipt under the other heads is so trifling as to need no comment.

MACNAMARA DIX,  
Andt. General.

## B.

RETURN of OFFENDERS sentenced by the Court of Grand Sessions more than once since the 1st of January 1852, out of 119 Convictions.

Offenders' Name.	Number of Times.	Nature of Offence.	When Sentenced.	Sentence.
1. Michel - -	Twice -	Cutting and wounding.	1852 Feb.	12 months' imprisonment and hard labour, with 1 month solitary confinement every 4 months.
		Do. do. -	1856 Aug.	12 months' imprisonment and hard labour, with 1 month solitary confinement every 2 months.
2. François, alias Callo -	Three times	Theft - -	1852 "	12 months' imprisonment and hard labour, with 3 of which is solitary confinement.
		Breaking open and stealing.	1854 Feb.	12 months' imprisonment and hard labour, with 15 days' solitary confinement in each 3 months.
		Theft in a dwelling house.	1855 Sept.	18 months' imprisonment and hard labour, of which 4 months' solitary confinement.
		Cutting and wounding.	" "	2 years' imprisonment and hard labour.
3. John Pamello - -	Twice -	Concept of Court	" "	6 months' simple imprisonment.
		Sealing - -	1853 Feb.	8 months' imprisonment and hard labour.
		Manlaughter -	1855 Aug.	8 months' imprisonment and hard labour, the hard labour stayed by order of President.
4. Tusto - -	Twice -	Theft - -	1854 Feb.	12 months' imprisonment and hard labour, of which 15 days solitary confinement in each 3 months.
		Do. - -	1855 "	2 years' imprisonment and hard labour, of which 3 months' solitary confinement each year.
5. Maxime Thomas -	Twice -	Sheep stealing -	1854 "	6 months' imprisonment and hard labour, of which 15 days' solitary confinement each 3 months.
		Assaulting a constable.	1857 "	12 months' imprisonment and hard labour, from 30th December 1856.
6. Sarah Fifas - -	Twice -	Theft - -	1854 Aug.	2 years' imprisonment and hard labour, of which 1 month's solitary confinement each 4 months.
		Do. - -	1857 Feb.	18 months' imprisonment from 25th January 1857, with hard labour during latter 9 months.
7. Charles Boleau -	Twice -	Do. - -	1855 "	1 year's imprisonment and hard labour, of which 15 days' solitary confinement in each 3 months.
		Do. - -	1857 "	2 years' imprisonment and hard labour, from 25th November 1856, of which solitary confinement the 15th and 18th months.
8. Maxime Michel -	Twice -	Assault with intent.	1853 Sept.	12 months' imprisonment with hard labour.
		Do. do. -	1854 Aug.	2 years' simple imprisonment.

(Signed) JOR. FADELLE,  
Pro. Marshal.

Marshal's Office, April 20, 1857.

## C.

Treasury, Dominica, April 23, 1857.

SIR, I HAVE the honour to report for your Excellency's information, that I have this day delivered to the Colonial Secretary the Tables of Statistics of Trade and Shipping required for the Blue Book for the year 1856.

The preparation of these documents has engaged all the time of the current year which the circumstances of health and the demand on me for the discharge of colonial duties would admit; my evening hours and Sundays have for a long period been necessarily and entirely devoted to this service.

But though I have thus laboured unremittingly, it is with much regret I have to state, that the tables do not supply all the information required.

## DOMINICA.

Your Excellency is aware that up to the month of November in last year, the old forms for this service were in my hands; not anticipating any change, I had prepared my accounts in accordance with the forms, and these were in such a state of progress as to ensure the delivery of them at an early period this year.

In that month, however, the new forms were sent to me, by which it appeared that the work of above three quarters of the year must be laid aside as valueless, and the tables compiled from the books of the Treasury for the whole year must be begun afresh.

The difficulties I had to encounter in framing these tables, and which accounts for the want of adaptation between them and the forms, are as follows:—

The Treasury books having a special reference to colonial requirements, frequently give in one amount all the commodities imported on one occasion by a merchant, which are subject to an *ad valorem* duty. They thus fail to give the descriptions or quantities of such goods. Such are mentioned in the tables as “non-enumerated goods.”

These records furnish the information as to the ports from which vessels arrive, and for which they clear; but they do not give the nationality of importing or exporting vessels.

The quantities of goods, as stated in these books, are given in so great a variety of forms as not to admit of my placing them under one general head.

The deficiencies of information here referred to could be supplied only by consulting original documents, a task which would involve so large an amount of application and toil as no constitution could bear; and also would delay the delivery of the tables to a very late period in the present year; I shall not, however, shrink from the task, should it under the circumstances be demanded from me, and the time required be allowed.

I have, however, taken care that the Treasury books shall be in future so prepared as to furnish all the information to which the forms refer for the present and future years.

His Excellency the Lieut.-Governor  
&c.      &c.      &c.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JNO. PALMER,  
Treasurer.

## MAURITIUS.

## MAURITIUS.

No. 23.

No. 23.

EXTRACT of DESPATCH from Governor HIGGINSON to the Right  
Honourable H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 116.)

Mauritius, June 13, 1857.

(Received August 3, 1857.)

In obedience to standing instructions, I beg leave to transmit herewith the Blue Book for 1856, together with the annual report on the general condition and prospects of the colony.

Encl. in No. 23.

Enclosure in No. 23.

*Revenue and Expenditure.*

1. The result of the year's financial operations has amply justified the favorable anticipations recorded in my last annual report. The revenue and expenditure were respectively 395,103*l.* 0*s.* 0*d.* and 326,580*l.* 12*s.* 1*d.*, leaving a surplus income of 68,522*l.* 7*s.* 11*d.* The revenue exceeded that of the previous year by 46,650*l.* 5*s.* 0*d.*, and amounted to 65,262*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* in excess of the estimate. The comparative statements furnished by the auditor-general present in detail the items of which the increase of revenue is composed, and bear testimony to the undiminished elasticity of the colonial resources. An explanation of the increase of expenditure, aggregating 8,741*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.*, is afforded by the same documents.

2. The surplus revenue from 1851 to 1856 inclusive has averaged 39,440*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.* per annum, accumulating, with previous balances, a reserve fund of 290,996*l.* of which 188,796*l.* was, on the first instant, available, for the unforeseen emergencies to which all governments are more or less

exposed, or for the construction of important works of public utility, to which latter purpose a considerable portion of this fund is now being applied.

3. With the extension of trade, agriculture, and population, expenditure has during the same period also increased, but in a much less ratio, averaging only 13,274*l.* 12*s.* 5*d.* per annum. The statement annexed marked A. gives the items of augmentation in detail.

Sub-Encl. I in No. 22.

### *Imports, Exports, and Shipping.*

4. The value of imports considerably exceeds that of 1855, being respectively 2,133,084*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.* and 1,356,300*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.*, whilst that of exports varies little, being respectively 1,804,123*l.* 2*s.* 0*d.* and 1,848,090*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.* The unusual excess of imports over 1855 and preceding year arises chiefly upon specie, but there is also an increase of several other articles, the details of which will be found in the accompanying statement\* prepared by the acting collector of customs. A comparison of the relative value of imports and exports in 1856 gives 2,133,084*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.* against 1,804,123*l.* 2*s.* 0*d.*

5. The return of shipping shows the tonnage of entries, including British and foreign, to have been 240,840, against 215,856 in 1855, the excess being entirely on foreign vessels, British remaining stationary at about 155,000 tons. The clearances were somewhat less, but in like proportion.

6. The increment of shipments of sugar in foreign bottoms has been large, principally for France, that country having taken nearly a fourth of the whole crop. Shipments to the Australian colonies have likewise been in excess of former years, having reached 17,123 tons. This market has hitherto proved favourable to shippers, and is looked to as a remunerative and growing outlet for our produce.

7. A comparison of our limited trade with Madagascar shows little change. The imports and exports during 1856 having amounted to 41,877*l.* 7*s.* and 19,234*l.* 16*s.* respectively, the former consisting almost exclusively of oxen, through means of which our market continues to be well supplied with beef at reasonable prices.

### *Population.*

8. Upon a comparison of the population return for 1856 with that for 1851, when the last census was taken, there appears to have been a considerable change in the relative proportions of the three classes into which the community is subdivided.

9. The Indian population has increased in the interval from 86,404 to 134,271, or about 36.7 per cent., while the ex-apprentices have decreased 16 per cent.; their number having been 48,366 at the end of 1851, and only 40,730 at the end of 1856. During the same period the general population has scarcely undergone any change; their numbers in 1851 amounted to 54,557, and in 1856 to 54,247, which shows a decrease of about 0.5 per cent. The consequence is that, whereas in 1851 the Indians formed only 45.5 per cent. of the entire population (29 per cent. of the remainder having been general, and 25.5 per cent. ex-apprentice,) at the end of 1856, 59 per cent. of the entire population were Indian, 23.5 per cent. were general, and 17.5 per cent. ex-apprentice.

10. The large decrease in the ex-apprentice population may be attributed chiefly to the fact that that class has, during each visitation of epidemic diseases, suffered more severely than any other. It amounted to 5.5 per cent. during 55-56, and to 9 per cent. during 53-54; out of the 16 per cent., therefore, which represents the total decrease in this class during the 5 last years, 14½ per cent. is ascribable to the effects of epidemic diseases. But even during the other three years, when there was no epidemic disease, the number of deaths in this class always exceeded that of the births; such was the case also in the Indian population; but immigration has far more than compensated for the decrease amongst the latter, whilst the former have received no accession to their numbers from without.

\* Not printed.

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11. On the other hand, amongst the general population the births during the years 1852-53 and 1855 have been more in number than the deaths, as may be seen from the annexed statement.\*

12. The mortality during the year 1856 amounted to  $10\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. amongst the ex-apprentices, to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. amongst the Indians, and to 4 per cent. amongst the general population. The number of births amounted to  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. amongst the ex-apprentices, to 2 per cent. amongst the Indians, and to 3 per cent. amongst the general population. The net decrease, therefore, upon a comparison of deaths and births, was 6 per cent. amongst the ex-apprentices,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. amongst the Indians, and 1 per cent. amongst the general population. The total number of deaths in the entire population amounted to 9,172, of which 3,656 were caused by cholera.

13. In the year 1855, when there was no cholera epidemic, there was still a decrease of 1 per cent. amongst the ex-apprentices, the per-centage of deaths having been  $5\frac{1}{2}$ , and that of births  $4\frac{1}{2}$ . The deaths amongst the Indians were also slightly in excess over the births, the former having amounted to  $2\frac{1}{2}$ , the latter to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.; while there was an increase of about  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. amongst the general population, the deaths having been  $2\frac{1}{2}$  and the births nearly 3 per cent.

14. There have been 64 marriages amongst the Indian population during the year 1856, against 66 in 1855, 355 against 349 in the general population, and only 278 against 324 among the ex-apprentices.

#### *Ecclesiastical.*

15. The numerical strength of the ministers of the established church has recently received two additions; one gentleman employed by the Church Missionary Society to labour among the Indian immigrants, whose condition in this colony promises much encouragement to all missionary exertion; the other to serve the parish of Moka, hitherto united to that of Plaines Wilhems, under the pastoral care of one clergyman, the liberal endowment of £1,000 made by Sir William Gomm, late Governor of the island, having materially conduced to this long desired object, the interest therefrom, added to voluntary contributions, under ordinance 54 of 1844, forming the fund for the ministers' stipend.

16. The church of England now numbers nine ministers, including one at the Seychelles, being an increase of five since 1852; and in justice to Bishop Ryan I would add that to his extensive influence and earnest efforts this more commensurate provision for the ministration of the protestant church is in a great measure due.

17. The Roman catholic ecclesiastical establishment, to which so large a proportion of the colonists look for the services of their religion, still continues quite inadequate to the onerous duties devolved upon it, the arrangements sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government in 1854, for providing a larger staff of clergy, having failed to accomplish this object, as lately represented, in consequence of the insuperable repugnance and absolute refusal of the members of that church to assist in the obtaining of additional priests, by contributing to their salaries, under the provisions of ordinance No. 54. of 1844. Assuming this to be the fact (and being alleged by Bishop Collier, there can be no reason to question it), it appeared to me clearly the duty of Government to resort to other and more efficacious means for remedying the acknowledged deficiency; and should the measures suggested for this purpose be approved, this desider-

#### \* GENERAL POPULATION.

	M.	F.	Total.	
Births	901	821	1722	1852
Deaths	698	534	1202	
	233	287	520	Increase.
	M.	F.	Total.	
Births	814	802	1616	1853
Deaths	666	507	1173	
	148	295	443	Increase.
	M.	F.	Total.	
Births	803	801	1604	1855
Deaths	685	542	1227	
	118	259	377	Increase.

may be within a few years attained. Meanwhile the bishop and his clergy continue to labour with unabated energy for the moral and social improvement of the ex-apprentice population and their descendants, no impediments, however formidable, no toil, however harassing, appearing to divert them from this sacred duty.

18. The members of the church of Scotland are at present so few in number, that their spiritual necessities are amply provided for by one minister; whilst the dissenters, in the colony form congregations under the ministry of three pastors, in connexion with the London Missionary Society, the senior of whom, Mr. Le Brun, has been for upwards of forty years a zealous and successful labourer amongst the coloured population.

#### *Education.*

19. This momentous question has continued to occupy much and careful attention, and not, it is hoped, without some beneficial results. Annexed are the annual reports from the rector of the Royal College, and the superintendent of Government schools; and these, although not announcing any very important changes, may be pronounced on the whole as tending to improvement.

Sub-Encl. 2 in No. 22.  
Sub-Encl. 3 in No. 22.

20. I have separately submitted and recommended for approval a paper drawn up by the education committee with great care and knowledge of the subject, suggesting various reforms in the Royal College, which appear well calculated to promote the efficiency and extend the utility of this popular and valuable institution; and I indulge the hope that the elementary schools will derive substantial benefit from the seminary for training teachers about being opened in Port Louis, and from the other remedial measures in progress. The annexed tabular statement affords some interesting details, showing, amongst other results, that the average annual cost of each Government school, and of the tuition of each pupil, has been 22*l.* 2*s.* and 3*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.* respectively.

21. The Mauritius Church Association continues to extend the sphere of its educational labours, and 10 new schools have been opened, under the auspices and by the indefatigable exertions of Bishop Ryan, principally for the instruction of Indian children through the medium of their vernacular dialects. Annexed is an interesting memorandum on the subject of these schools, furnished by the bishop, at my request.

Sub-Encl. 4 in No. 23.

22. A new seminary for the education of young girls of the better classes has also been commenced under the auspices of the Rev. J. Le Brun, of the London Missionary Society, with the object of filling a void which has long been felt in Port Louis.

23. Notwithstanding these indications of educational progress, there remains much more to be achieved before the righteous work can be matured. Amidst the various obstacles with which the friends of education have had to contend, the immovable apathy and indifference of parents, and, with a few creditable exceptions, of employers, have proved most formidable; and, as the only hopeful means of effectually attacking the mass of ignorance and its concomitant evils into which the children of both the Indian and ex-apprentice population are plunged, it has been determined, after careful deliberation, to introduce a compulsory system of education, and an ordinance to give effect to this resolution is now before the legislature. The obstacles to be surmounted in enforcing the provisions of this ordinance, if it should be passed by the legislature, and be confirmed by the Crown, are not underrated; nor do I aver that its entire success can be confidently relied on; but in my judgment the salutary and beneficent ends in view may be held to justify the experiment, experience of the past having forced upon the Government the conviction that by no entirely voluntary system can the mass of the population be rescued from their present state of intellectual debasement, and less direct coercion, which has, in some other countries worked well, we have not here the material to fairly try.

#### *Legislation.*

24. Amongst the ordinances which have become law will be found several entitled to more than ordinary prominence, in the consideration of which the Legislative Council have afforded me the same valuable aid, and have manifested the same enlightened desire to advance the public welfare, as have been conspicuous on previous occasions. I would allude especially to those for promoting education amongst the poorer classes; for facilitating the marriages of Indian immigrants, and for the more summary punishment of abduction; for

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establishing a new tariff of judicial costs in all proceedings before the supreme court; for revising the table of fees receivable by public notaries; and for consolidating and amending the insolvent laws.

25. Having reported separately on these ordinances, I need here only remark that if the objects designed by their enactment be attained, valuable benefits will be conferred upon the colony. The three last-named may be considered as in continuation of those judicial reforms first commenced by my lamented predecessor Sir George Anderson; and these, with an ordinance now before the legislature, for amending the laws for the administration of vacant or intestate estates, will, I believe, complete the series of those reforms. The soundness of the policy that dictated some of the changes then projected, and since carried into effect, is still impugned by a section of the colonial bar and public; but the opposition has been gradually relaxing, and is, I apprehend, kept alive more by feelings of ancient nationality and traditionary prejudice than by conviction on a dispassionate review of the relative superiority of the former and present systems of judicature.

#### *Civil Establishments.*

26. These may on the whole be pronounced to rest on a satisfactory footing, and adequate to the various duties discharged by them. Salaries on a liberal scale are provided for the senior ranks of the service; but in some of the more subordinate departments there is yet room for augmentation, the expenses of living being exceedingly high as compared with other colonial possessions.

27. The necessity still remains for occasionally resorting to the United Kingdom for competent persons to fill the higher class of appointments; but I trust the time is not far distant when this necessity will no longer exist, and when the required qualifications for such offices will be found nearer home. In saying this, I do not undervalue the advantage of an occasional admixture of new blood, when the selection turns out a suitable one; nor do I question the policy that reserves to the metropolitan Government nominations to the highest and most responsible public offices.

28. Within the last few years several of the principal departments have been enlarged or re-organized,—the police,—the customs,—the colonial secretary's office,—the surveyor-general and civil engineer departments,—and those of education,—immigration,—civil status,—medical,—and quarantine, with a view to increased efficiency, and to meet the progressive requirements of advancing agriculture and commerce and of a rapidly spreading population. Some of these measures have necessarily involved considerable additional expense; and I remained for a time under the reproach of yielding too easily to the demands made upon me for augmentations of salary and extension of establishments. A further experience of the results of the measures referred to has strengthened the conviction I then entertained, namely, that their adoption was more consistent with true economy than to have these departments under-handed, and unequal to cope with the accumulated work devolved upon them.

#### *Grants of Land.*

29. A comparison of the return comprised under this head with that made for 1855 shows an increase of 10 in the number of lots of land disposed of by grant and purchase.

30. The value and extent of the available Crown lands are supposed to be inconsiderable; but this cannot be accurately ascertained until the proposed survey of all these lands throughout the island has been effected. When it is hoped that there will be an augmentation of the revenue derived from their source, as well from the sale of lands now unoccupied, as from leasing those the tenure of which is at present irregular and the title defective, and by the conversion of the old tenures termed "jouissances" into leases.

31. Unfortunately the progress hitherto made in this work has been slower than was at first expected, as it has not yet extended beyond a portion of the municipal boundaries of Port Louis; the cause of which has not long since been explained, and the steps taken to expedite the survey.

32. The measures adopted under ordinance No. 30. of 1854, "for amending the laws relating to the conservation of woods, forests, and rivers," have tended to check the depredations so frequently committed on the timber growing on the Crown reserves and on the borders of streams; but some of the provisions

of this ordinance, especially those requiring the replanting of lands belonging to individuals, and now under cultivation, have been found to interfere so much with the rights of private property, and to bear so hardly on the poorer class of petty proprietors, that a modification of them appeared to me unavoidable, and the amendments suggested by the operation of the law are about being submitted to the consideration of the Legislative Council.

#### *Public Works and Roads.*

33. Several extensive and useful works have been in progress during the year; viz<sup>t</sup>, the enlargement and improvement of the lunatic asylum, construction of new quarantine establishments at Flat Island and Cannonier Point, new jail and court house in district of Savanne, new bridges over Rivière La Chaux, Rivière Wilhems, St. Louis Creek, Rivières Cascade, Tamarin and Profonde. (Of these, the last three have been completed.) Erection of three additional signal stations with semaphores to communicate with the Lazaretto on Flat Island, and of police stations in the Flacq and Black River districts.

34. Of the several new roads under construction, some are much advanced and others making fair progress. When finished they will open to cultivation tracts of country which, from their inaccessibility, have hitherto lain sterile, and will afford increased facilities of internal communication.

35. The amount expended on this service, including the improvement and repairs of existing roads, was 15,966*l.* 18*s.* 0*d.*, and these latter have on the whole been maintained in good condition.

36. More effective arrangements have been made for the repairs of the bye and branch lines, which, from the failure of the partially voluntary system (that is, the cost being defrayed partly by Government, and partly by the inhabitants directly interested), as explained on a previous occasion, had fallen into so indifferent a state as in some instances to have become almost impassable.

37. The future annual charge for the maintenance of roads will probably exceed the expenditure incurred under the contract system; which, after an experience of several years, the Government has been compelled to abandon. This work is now performed by the surveyor-general's department, partly by hired and partly by convict labour; and it is hoped that the superiority of its execution will countervail the additional cost.

38. The construction of new roads is still thrown open to contract, but much difficulty is experienced in finding competent persons willing to accept them on reasonable terms.

39. The object of Government has been to gradually traverse the island with convenient roads, in order to facilitate the extension of cultivation, and the transport of the produce of the soil; and if the same liberal provision for this service should continue to be made for a few years more this important and reproductive end will be attained.

#### *Jails, Prisoners, and Crime.*

40. The criminal statistics attached to the annexed elaborate and comprehensive report presented by the Port Louis prison committee afford the means of approximately estimating the progress of crime during the last five years, and exhibits results which, taken as a whole, may be considered gratifying.

41. In a large majority of the more heinous class of offences, such as murder, arson, poisoning, and larceny, with breaking or burglary, there has been a marked diminution in the years 1855 and 1856, compared with 1852 and 1853; whilst rape, perjury, petty assaults, and simple larceny have increased. Unnatural crimes, forgery, and coining remaining stationary. Although the information contained in the committee's report is confined to Port Louis, it may be taken as a fair criterion of the state of crime generally throughout the colony, as the town comprises more than a fourth of our whole population, and to its jail are committed all persons tried by the supreme court, the jurisdiction of district courts being limited to offences punishable by no more than one year's imprisonment and 50*l.* fine. The increased number of prosecutions for petty crimes is ascribed, and I think correctly, to the greater facilities derived from the establishment of district courts, and to the agency of a more numerous and effective police, to which may be added the annual addition to the Indian population, of whom this class of culprits is largely composed.

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42. The sanitary state of the jails generally continues very satisfactory, and the mortality amongst prisoners comparatively small. In the district establishments these are employed exclusively on the roads and public works; and although at such out-door work, it is more difficult to carry out a stringent system of discipline, it offers, in my opinion, the most profitable means of applying their labour, and is best suited to the capacity, the habits, and the health of the debased class of criminals from whom it is exacted.

43. In Port Louis jail the case is different. Convicts are here detained under long sentences, which admits of the adoption of a more reformatory and civilizing system, by employing them within the walls, teaching them useful trades and occupations, and endeavouring to bring them under those salutary influences, the regenerating power of which time and persevering effort can alone call forth. Such a system is now in partial operation, and with apparently good effect; and the committee have invariably manifested so much zeal, humanity, and judgment in discharging the duties confided to them, that I feel confident no opportunity of introducing further improvement will be overlooked.

44. One of the most serious obstacles to the effectual and beneficial carrying out of secondary punishments is the absence of a penal settlement. Sentences of transportation are necessarily commuted to penal servitude in the colony; but this falls far short of the objects in view, whether as regards deterring from crime or the reformation of criminals. To find an adequate remedy for this evil I have sought in vain. A convict establishment might, it is true, be formed on one of the uninhabited dependencies, but the expense to be incurred would be very large, and after its completion remunerative labour could hardly be looked for. Besides, it is doubtful whether the effect upon convicts would be the same as if transported to a foreign and more distant settlement.

#### *Agriculture and Manufacture.*

45. Some patents have been taken out in the course of the year for new improvements; but I do not learn that the value of any of these has proved such as to call for particular notice. The fact is that in the main the systems of both husbandry and manipulation of sugar generally pursued are so good as to leave little room for substantial amendment, although in some less essential points they are doubtless susceptible of amelioration. No reasonable expense is spared in the cultivation of the soil, the benefits of high farming being fully recognized. Great care is observed in the application of manures, the unrivalled fertilizer guano being the agent most in use.

46. The cane borer, by whose invasion so much alarm was excited in 1855, has not extended its ravages, but, on the contrary, seems to be gradually disappearing. The premium of 2,000*l.* offered by the legislature for the most efficacious and practical means of destroying the insect remains unawarded, whilst nature is steadily overcoming the evil, for which human discoveries have failed to find an effectual remedy.

47. The process of manipulation has of late years been brought to a high state of efficiency, as the quality and quantity of the sugar exported can testify. To further improvement in quality, the differential duties (against the impolicy and injustice of which I have so often supported the remonstrances of the colonists) constitute the only bar, as from this fertile soil and genial climate, by the aid of science and suitable machinery, sugar may be produced inferior to none that can be brought into competition with it; but when, as it is alleged, owing to the operation of these duties, the inferior qualities frequently yield a more remunerative return, the stimulus to improvement no longer exists.

#### *Immigration.*

48. From the three presidencies of India 12,655 immigrants were introduced within the year, of whom 3,525 were females, giving an aggregate Indian population on 31st December 1856 of 102,125 males and 31,446 females.

49. I annex two tabular statements, the one showing approximately the distribution and employment of the males, and which gives about 73,000 under engagements of service on the 15th December 1856, of whom, according to the estimate of planters, an average of 15 or 20 per cent. are absent from work on account of sickness, idleness, caprice, and vagrancy. The women very rarely work for hire, remaining in their huts engaged with their children or other domestic pursuits. The other statement,\* showing the current rates of wages

\* Being very voluminous, is not printed.



during the same year, averaging 13s. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per month, exclusive of the usual rations, and of the bounties of late generally paid by planters, vying with each other to secure sufficient hands for their estates, and which may be equivalent to one or two shillings per month on the duration of engagements.

50. Since the interdiction laid upon emigration by the Government of India, wages have gone up considerably, say from three to four shillings per month. High prices have likewise contributed to this rise. So long as these continue, employers can well afford to pay at the advanced rates, and it is but reasonable that the labourers should participate in the enhanced profits.

51. One result of the advance in wages has been to diminish by about two thirds, on a comparison of the first quarter of 1857 with the corresponding periods, in 1855 and 1856, the number of new immigrants paying the redemptory tax in order to relieve themselves from the obligation of the five years' industrial residence exacted from all immigrants introduced at the expense of the colony; and I am led to believe that it has also induced some old immigrants, who had abandoned employment on plantations, to return to them.

52. From places other than the continent of India, 1,008 immigrants only have been received. Those irregularly brought from Ibo and Aden have been specially reported; the few remaining were from Madagascar.

53. The suspension of Indian immigration naturally turned more attention to other sources of supply; China and the east coast of Africa attracting most prominent notice. On the proposals of the Chamber of Agriculture for encouraging immigration from these countries I have separately addressed you.

54. The obstacles to immigration from either country, consistently with the conditions on which alone it could be sanctioned, can, I fear, hardly be surmounted. These being, on the one hand, the insuperable impediments to women leaving China; and, on the other hand, the, I believe, established fact, that the freedom of all labourers brought from the east coast of Africa must be virtually purchased. On this latter point I annex a copy of a communication confirmatory of this view which reached me a few days since from Commodore Trotter, who has just returned from a cruise on that coast.

Sub-Encl. 7 to No. 23.

54. Although there exists a strong and general feeling in favour of African immigration, as subsidiary to that from India, I must do the planters of Mauritius the justice to say, that I have observed no desire on their part to compass it at the fearful cost of reviving or encouraging slave traffic in any sort of shape.

55. In regard to Madagascar there can be no doubt that a properly organized free immigration from the east coast of that island would be of great service. From thence the expense of transport would be comparatively small; and as to obtaining a due proportion of females there would be no difficulty, and the few men who have from time to time been brought here have made useful and industrious labourers; but to the immigration of her subjects the queen of the Havas is resolutely opposed; and by attempting it to jeopardize the fruits of existing friendly relations, and of the re-opening of trade, would, I submit, be consistent neither with a wise policy nor with national faith. From amongst the tribes who are not yet subject to the queen's dominion, the information that has reached me of the prospect of procuring labourers is very discouraging; and these are besides, from their habits and pursuits, represented to be ill-adapted for purposes of agriculture. Commodore Trotter likewise alludes in his letter above referred to to an immigration that has been for some time carried on between the neighbouring island of Reunion and Madagascar, and to the encouragement which it has given to the importation of slaves from the African coast.

56. Mauritius being thus entirely dependent on India for labour, it seems indispensable to her industrial progress that the channel of supply should be wide and clear, unclogged with restrictions of any kind, save such as are required for the social and physical well-being of the immigrants, and for securing to them regular employment, remunerative wages, and general good treatment. All these conditions are rigidly exacted, and means are provided for the education of their children. Moreover, at the termination of their five years' industrial residence, they can either return to their native homes, with such a competency as there a whole life of toil would not amass, or they can settle in the colony in full enjoyment of the rights and immunities of British subjects. It is earnestly to be hoped then, in the interests alike of employers and employed, that no untoward event will again divert from Mauritius the current of this auriferous and beneficial stream.

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*Dependencies.*

57. Considerable difficulty is experienced in procuring reliable information of their condition and progress, in consequence of no constituted authority being placed in charge of any of these numerous and widely scattered islets (save the Seychelles group and Rodrigues), and of the uncertainty and irregularity of communication with them. But the annexed statistical return, though far from complete, is not devoid of interest, including the exports and their probable value from those inhabited during the last three years, consisting chiefly of cocoa nut oil, dried fish, and shingles, and also an estimate of the probable amount of population on each island.

58. Captain Peyton, of Her Majesty's ship "Frolic," who, at my request, was directed by Commodore Trotter to visit several of these dependencies, a few months since, states, in a report which has been communicated to Her Majesty's Government, that the labourers employed by the persons in occupation appeared to be satisfied and contented, and that no complaint was preferred to him, except at the Six Islands, where the manager had been murdered by a party of Indian labourers who had been surreptitiously introduced from Cochin, ill treated, and detained there against their will. The details of this affair have already been communicated.

59. The annual report from the civil commissioner of Seychelles has not yet reached me; but I apprehend that there will be little to add to that of last year. I had hoped that these distant and isolated settlements would have profited by the more regular and rapid intercourse with Mauritius, through means of the postal service lately established with Aden; but, contrary to expectation, these steamers have hitherto run direct through, without touching at their coal dépôt on St Anne's Island close to Mahé. I conceive, however, that this communication with Mauritius would, on many grounds, be so advantageous to this struggling community, that in any future modification of the contract it should be provided for.

60. The wants of the people of both the Seychelles and Rodrigues are few, and easily supplied. Fish is abundant, and land suited to the growth of those edibles which they principally consume. Moral and social influences have as yet made themselves but little felt; but the people are generally peaceable and orderly, and crime of the graver kind is almost unknown amongst them.

61. Bishop Ryan lately afforded the advantage of a pastoral visit to the Seychelles islanders, and was favourably impressed by the reception, and the desire manifested by the inhabitants for more extended means of religious instruction; and I am happy to add, that, through his lordship's exertions, the long projected church at Victoria (Mahé) is about being immediately commenced.

62. One chaplain of the established church, and two friars deputed by the Propaganda at Rome, minister to the spiritual wants of the Seychellois; whilst at Rodrigues this duty is performed by the occasional visit of a Roman catholic priest from Mauritius.

*General Remarks.*

63. There appears little to add to the facts recorded and the views embodied last year, at more than ordinary length, in a report which I then considered the last I should have the honour of presenting. I can, however, affirm, that there has been no interruption to the rapid march of improvement then depicted. It may in truth be said that during the year 1856 the colony was in possession of every element essential to successful industry;—a teeming harvest, a labour market well supplied and at reasonable rates, cheap and abundant food for men and cattle, freights low, and prices highly remunerative.

64. The crop reached about 110,000 tons, and realized a value that may safely be estimated at 2,242,000*l.*, fully one half of which may be considered clear profit, the other moiety covering all the expenses of production, of transport, and of sale. This large return, with that of the previous year, has gone far towards the release of those estates which less prosperous times had seen heavily embarrassed.

65. The prospects of the current year are no less fraught with promise; and should these, with God's blessing, be realized, and the wild speculation and blind prodigality too often consequent on high prices be avoided, the general solvency of the proprietary will be secured.

66. The progress of commerce and of other branches of industry keeps pace with the development of our agricultural resources, our little harbour being literally crowded with the shipping of all nations, while our wharves and stores,

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now rapidly extending, present an uninterrupted scene of activity and bustle. The interest of money too has fallen with its fuller influx, and the pressure of discount on document bills has been proportionally lightened.

67. The great demand in Europe for sugar has led to the sale in several instances of the crops still on foot, at very high figures, ranging, I am informed, from 24s. to 32s. per cwt., principally for French manufacture; and I may add, that reliance on the prospect of the home market has induced the rejection in others of similar offers.

68. In addition to the other advantages thus enjoyed by this thriving and prosperous community, the colony has at length obtained that of a regular and rapid communication with Europe, our monthly postal steamers to Aden enabling us to receive intelligence from the mother country in 30 days. The worth of this boon is appreciated by all; from the merchant, to whose transactions the earliest advices of the state of markets in Europe is so valuable, to the public officers and soldiers of the garrison, to whom the latest news from their home and country is looked for with never ceasing and anxious interest.

69. The great mortality caused by the epidemic visitations of cholera and small-pox, already noticed under the head of "Population," forms the only dark shade in the otherwise bright picture of Mauritian affairs; but these are calamities against which no human foresight can avail, though man's will and power, in preparing for the invasion of disease, may mitigate its severity, and tend to prevent its recurrence. It would be superfluous to affirm, that to compass these ends the endeavors of the local Government have been actively and continuously directed, had not a diversity of opinion on the theory of contagion led a portion of the community to a different conclusion, inducing the supposition that because I could not with them profess a boundless reliance in the efficacy of quarantine, its regulations could not therefore be heartily enforced, and that the colony had thereby been a prey to evils from which more stringent precautions might have shielded it.

70. To sum up in a few brief words, I shall resign my honourable and honoured trust in the full confidence of hope for the perpetuation of those inestimable blessings which, under the good providence of God, the people of Mauritius now enjoy, and with humble thankfulness to Him that I have been allowed to witness the consummation of a work to the furtherance of which my best energies have been long and earnestly devoted.

(Signed) J. M. HIGGINSON.

Mauritius, June 13, 1857.

## Sub-Enclosure 1 in No. 23.

STATEMENT showing the Annual Expenditure from 1851 to 1856, under the following heads:—

	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
<b>Establishments</b>	121,850 18 7	123,140 10 3	123,975 8 8	126,501 13 1	121,374 16 2	123,947 13 0
Into Immigration, Mauritius and India	3,791 16 0	4,912 13 9	5,431 0 10	4,890 13 7	5,785 10 9	6,331 13 9
<b>Total Establishments</b>	125,672 14 7	130,053 8 1	129,406 7 4	131,392 9 9	127,159 9 0	140,280 8 9
<b>Service, exclusive of Establishments:</b>						
Pensions, retired Allowances and Gratuities	8,148 10 5	11,602 12 1	9,344 7 7	9,130 11 1	9,411 8 10	9,075 14 3
Revenue Services	3,079 14 5	4,166 17 9	5,893 3 0	17,992 5 4	12,049 10 0	8,888 19 4
Administration of Justice	7,794 0 2	3,962 7 1	2,771 8 1	9,171 9 5	3,394 0 5	3,345 11 8
Ecclesiastical	22 16 1	640 0 0	1,435 0 0	5,255 0 0	1,547 5 5	1,061 6 4
Charitable Allowances	48 14 7	48 11 0	37 15 0	28 12 0	24 4 0	17 11 0
Education	9,119 14 6	2,469 3 8	2,844 6 8	1,930 3 9	1,791 19 11	3,239 8 1
Hospitals	2,192 13 10	2,739 12 4	5,080 9 4	4,079 0 3	4,128 2 10	4,158 9 1
Police and Gards	3,257 3 2	1,934 16 9	2,347 7 10	2,264 0 0	3,779 16 1	2,778 9 10
Barracks	5,437 10 8	2,932 1 0	2,691 0 0	2,819 16 7	5,125 12 5	3,267 15 4
Transport	205 12 1	323 7 8	2,252 13 11	880 14 1	1,535 19 6	6,120 8 9
Conveyance of Mails	641 7 8	297 2 11	10,201 9 0	8,835 0 4	2,460 12 1	5,415 19 1
Works and Buildings	7,399 3 1	7,915 8 2	10,268 1 0	8,760 7 5	12,637 13 8	11,960 13 3
Roads, Streets, and Bridges	8,126 10 0	5,172 7 7	3,494 10 4	9,159 15 0	10,493 2 1	29,188 0 9
Miscellaneous Services	4,055 6 5	2,236 7 1	3,393 9 3	13,379 10 14	11,791 17 8	18,141 19 7
Interest	2,013 11 3	2,480 12 9	2,546 15 6	2,002 9 7	3,222 3 1	3,555 8 9
Civil Stores Department	5,249 3 8	5,058 19 11	7,020 16 7	8,482 5 5	9,701 2 9	7,540 7 11
Contribution towards Military Expenditure	5,000 0 0	5,000 0 0	5,000 0 0	5,000 0 0	5,000 0 0	5,000 0 0
Colonial Pay and Allowances	14,657 8 0	12,233 5 6	13,993 8 7	15,165 19 9	14,917 9 0	12,938 10 1
Immigration	38,715 8 1	77,069 0 2	30,764 11 5	120,414 19 4	66,253 13 10	66,075 12 7
Drawback and Refund of Duties	1,387 4 7	1,322 16 0	1,929 7 0	2,170 4 9	4,132 9 9	3,963 15 0
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	£ 946,859 17 2	£ 1,003,053 0 3	£ 933,304 2 3	£ 1,172,150 6 9	£ 1,173,739 8 8	£ 1,205,590 12 1

(Signed) W. W. R. KERN, Auditor General.

## REPORT on the ROYAL COLLEGE for 1856.

1. Having, in former reports entered into details of the system of instruction pursued at the Royal College, I shall in the present confine myself to a slight retrospect of the events of the session of 1856, adding a few remarks on what appear to me to be the most striking imperfections in the present system, together with such remedies and modifications as my experience may enable me to suggest.

2. In March, the college sustained a loss by the death of Mr. Bojer. On the high attainments of that professor it is unnecessary for me to dwell. His fame as a naturalist was not confined to Mauritius, but extended to all the learned societies of Europe. In his capacity of professor of natural history and chemistry at the college, I had ample opportunities to judge of the zeal and talent he brought to the discharge of his duty, and am certain that had he been spared he would have carried out to the fullest extent the views entertained by Government in the formation of those classes.

3. I have also to record the death of Mr. Chauvineau, teacher of drawing, a man universally esteemed, beloved and respected by his pupils, a most skilful teacher, devoted to his art, and so interested in the progress of his pupils that he never limited his instruction to the hours assigned to him at the college, but disinterestedly received in his private studio and assisted every pupil who evinced a taste for the art. His loss, I need hardly remark, will be much felt.

4. I believe I am warranted in stating that the public examinations at the close of the session proved satisfactory, and that considerable progress was marked generally throughout the classes. I might even mention in support of this assertion, that in some instances both the written compositions and the answering of the pupils, especially in the higher classes, elicited expressions of approbation from those gentlemen who kindly favoured us with their assistance on the occasion. His Excellency the Governor, actuated by the interest he has never ceased to feel in the welfare of the institution, was kind enough to take a part in the proceedings, and expressed his satisfaction at the manner in which, generally speaking, the pupils of the first class recited English. He even remarked that he considered the distinction hitherto made between boys of French and English extraction to be no longer necessary, the pronunciation of the former being, if not superior, at least fully equal to that of the latter. A testimony of this nature from so high and disinterested a quarter is not only valuable in itself, but will doubtless prove a great stimulus to further exertions on the part of both pupils and professors.

5. The distribution of prizes took place on Thursday 18th December, when his Excellency the Governor presided. I regret to be obliged to state that the behaviour of the pupils on this occasion was not so orderly as usual, the proceedings being frequently interrupted by excessive applause or marks of approbation. Such disorderly conduct would seem to warrant the inference that discipline was much relaxed during the session. This, however, was not the case. On the contrary, it was as well maintained as in any former session for several years; not a single serious case of breach of discipline or of immorality having occurred throughout the year. I can only ascribe this exceptional ease of agitation to the jealous feelings which unfortunately at the time existed (and I fear still exist) between different sections of the population, and which found vent among the junior members of the community by mutual recriminations and noise in a crowded and mixed assembly, where perhaps any forcible attempts to restore at once perfect order would only have been productive of greater confusion. It is but right to add, to prevent any exaggerated ideas on the subject, that nothing but noise was to be complained of.

6. The silver medal for junior classes of English was awarded to Evonor Chastellier.

7. The gold medal for senior classes of English was gained by Raphael Bonnemaison.

8. The prize of superiority was adjudged to Etienne Pellereau.

9. The four best pupils of the year presented to his Excellency the Governor were, Etienne Pellereau, Noëmus Laconfourque, George Cox, and Jules Lahonté, from whom his Excellency selected Etienne Pellereau and Noëmus Laconfourque as the pupils who had gained the privilege of being sent to England for the purpose of prosecuting their professional education at the expense of Government.

10. The following appear to me to be the most striking imperfections in the present system of instruction at the college:—

1. Too many classes in most of the branches.
2. Too many prizes.
3. Compositions for crosses and medals too frequent during the year.
4. Higher pupils attend too many different classes each day.
5. Interruption of studies towards the end of the year by compositions for prizes.
6. Discipline weakened by irregular and unpunctual attendance of some professors.

1. With regard to the number of classes; from a summary I have made I find that there were in 1856, in French seven junior and seven senior classes. These might be reduced to five junior and five senior. In Latin there were three junior and six senior. These I propose to reduce to three junior and four senior, and in like manner in some other branches.



6. There can be no doubt to the mind of any one who has carefully watched the schools, that very fair progress has been made by the majority of the children who have been regular in their attendance, whilst the frequent irregularity, in too many instances, puts progress out of the question.

*Changes and Improvements.*

7. In order to secure every possible advantage to the school children, the following changes and improvements have been made :—

1. The services of Mr. Weston (1st class queen's scholar 1853, and certificated master 1854,) were engaged on the 1st of July, the intention being that he should take charge of the proposed new normal school; but, pending the opening of this, he was commissioned to organize all the existing schools according to a plan submitted by him, and to assist the teaching staff in carrying out the provisions of this plan in the readiest and most effective manner.

Great benefits may be expected to result from the introduction of a uniform system of instruction, and a uniform method of imparting it. Thus, for instance,—

1. The parties engaged in teaching will be restrained from following any plans of their own which are not directly beneficial to the children.

2. Any teachers who, though in other respects well qualified for their duties, may be wanting in method, will have their energies rightly directed.

3. The comparative progress arrived at in the different schools will be more easily estimated when looked at with regard to fixed rules by which all are equally regulated, and the existence of this common test for all is not unlikely to stimulate to efforts to excel, both on the part of the teachers and the more advanced amongst their pupils.

II. Additional assistants have been placed in some of the schools which are largely attended, and to ensure persons of superior attainments to fill these posts an increased scale of payments has been adopted.

III. The teaching of vocal music has been extended from three to five schools in Port Louis.

IV. The geometry class, hitherto held for one hour per week in each of the five schools in town, is now held in the professor's lecture room, where those pupils who are qualified, attend from the town schools in two classes for three hours each per week.

V. Commodious schoolrooms have been provided at Rochebois and Souillac. The school at Pointe Aux Piments has been removed to the more populous neighbourhood of Arsenal.

VI. In consequence of the death of one master, the removal of two others from the school department, and the retirement of one mistress, the following appointments and changes have taken place :—

1. Mr. Leal, master at Flacq, to be master of Western Suburb school, in place of Mr. Joly, deceased.

2. Mr. F. de la Châtre Ogle, to be master at Flacq, in place of Mr. Leal.

3. Mr. Gordon, to be master of Western Juvenile school, in place of Mr. Graves, transferred to the prisons department.

4. Mr. Brown, at Souillac, to be master at Rochebois, in place of Mr. Standley, removed to Royal College department.

5. Mr. C. Bell, to be master at Souillac, in place of Mr. Brown.

6. Miss Cablé, to be mistress of Grand River school, in place of Mrs. Ronssel, retired.

8. The experiment of schools for Indian children has been tried in Port Louis. One for children from Madras, in the Tamul language; the other, for Calcutta children, in the Hindoo dialect; both conducted by natives of India.

9. The average daily attendance at the Tamul school reached in one month to as high a number as forty-five, but fluctuated considerably between that number and twenty-five during the six months of 1856, for which the school was open. The proportion of girls to boys has been nearly one to three.

10. At the Hindoo school the averages have been in two or three months somewhat higher than in the Tamul school; the fluctuations as great; the attendance of girls limited to three or four.

11. The difficulty of collecting and bringing these children to school must not be lost sight of. The masters find it necessary to perform this duty very frequently themselves, in order to fill their school benches. It would leave the masters more at liberty for the work of teaching if a permanent assistant were appointed to each school, irrespective of the number of scholars, in order that by his means greater regularity might be ensured.

12. The numbers in attendance might, too, be considerably increased if to the Tamul school there were appointed an under master to teach one of the Calcutta dialects, and to the Hindoo school one to teach Tamul.

13. The schools at present established are situated, one in the eastern suburb, and one in the western suburb, so that the Tamul children, whose parents live in the eastern suburb, would have to send their children to the other end of the town, if they wished to avail themselves of the Government schools; and, on the other hand, Calcutta children

from the western suburb, would have to cross to the eastern. By the proposed arrangement this difficulty would be avoided.

14. Viewed in comparison with existing schools in the colony, and considering how short a time these schools have been in operation, they afford very fair promise of ultimate success.

#### *Infant Schools.*

15. One thing is very much to be desired in order to render the schools more effective; it is, that a trained infant schoolmistress be attached to each of the large schools, to take charge of all children of both sexes under seven years old, in a separate apartment fitted up for this express purpose.

16. The number of children attending the five schools in Port Louis was, at the close of the year, 502 boys and 184 girls; total 686. Of these 686 children at least 228, or one third, are children about or under 7 years of age, or, if not infants in age, are infants in knowledge, and would be benefited by being treated as such.

17. Under existing arrangements the female infants attend with their elder school fellows, and the male infants in the same way, except in one instance, viz., that of the schools in Royal Street.

18. The consequence of this is, that the children do not have that undivided attention which they require, except as distributed through the aid of monitors who are themselves but children; and in the exception mentioned above the assistant teacher in charge of the male infant department, though a zealous man, and a very fair schoolmaster, would be better adapted to take charge of a school of children of all ages than of one composed exclusively as the department is of which he has now the management, especially when it is taken into consideration that a large number are always in attendance here, the proportion of those classed as infants to others in this school being nearly three to two. I consider the teacher referred to to be as good a one as could be found in the colony, and worthy of every praise for the way in which he performs his assiduous duties; but the truth is, that the care of infants is so important and difficult a task that persons are seldom able to discharge it with good results unless they have made that particular branch of teaching their peculiar study. The system in use in England is to combine amusement with instruction, and to permit of occasional relaxation, according to the age or strength of the children. This is obviously more necessary in the treatment of children in a tropical climate than at home; but, in order to secure these advantages, a separate room and yard or portion of a yard is necessary, with all the required appliances, as well as a mistress whose attention has been particularly devoted to the care of young children.

19. When the children here are, on account of their age, put into one of the upper classes, it very frequently happens that they are complete dunces, and have to begin at the very beginning. It is found that in the junior classes they have learnt little or nothing. If the plan proposed were adopted, it would not only render the schools attractive to young children, but highly beneficial in various ways. By placing a young girl or pupil teacher under each infant schoolmistress, it would soon be needless to look to the mother country for the supply of female teachers, who are so much required and more difficult to be met with than even masters and male assistants.

20. The masters having to teach every thing in French and English, and allowing for the time taken up by the geometry and singing classes, have enough to do, with all the goodwill and ability which they bring to bear on their work, to keep their upper classes in an efficient state.

(Signed) W. LEWIS MASON,

Schools' Office, 30th April 1857.

Acting Superintendent of Government Schools.

#### Sub-Enclosure 4 in No. 23.

MEMORANDUM respecting the ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS in connection with the CHURCH of ENGLAND.

Port Louis, May 21, 1857.

1. It is somewhat difficult to make out a statement respecting the above schools, from the complication of the management of the funds by which they have been supported; but I shall endeavour to make the account clear, by dividing them into two classes, those independent of the Rev. de Joux's management, and those which are under his charge.

#### *Port Louis. English and French.*

Two schools, one for boys, with between 30 and 40 pupils; girls between 20 and 30.

#### *Indian.*

One Bengalee mixed, 14 pupils.

2. It is an interesting fact, though not strictly connected with elementary schools, that a Sunday school, held in the room near the cathedral, has more than a hundred and twenty pupils under the care of voluntary teachers.

*Grand River.*

3. In the Indian camp, a school for Bengalee children, with 31 pupils, of whom 29 were present the last time I heard of it. This is a rare proportion of attendants.

*Plaines Wilkems.*

4. Four small schools have been attempted here, only two of which can be regarded as steady. More than 80 children have been gathered; but absurd reports of our intentions respecting the children, such as that the Government intended to send them away to make sepoy of them, &c., have had a strong effect, not only on Indians, but also on creole parents. Between 30 and 40 children only at present can be reckoned on, though the reports of the catechists tell of several hundreds of Indian children in different parts of that district bordering on the high road and towards Moka.

*Mahebourg.*

5. A small Tamil school with 13 pupils.

6. The schools under Mr. de Joux are in three groups:—1 at Petite Rivière and Banboie there are six schools kept in two establishments. In each of these establishments, English, French, Bengalee, and Tamil are taught. The creole, the Bengalee, and the Madrassee schools are quite distinct in management, though in the same compound. In the Petite Rivière schools, 83 pupils were present on one of the days when I visited it, out of 125 on the books, and at Banboie there were 63 out of 100. I regard these two schools with great interest, as they show how the Indians are attracted by their own language. Creole boys may learn the Indian languages, so as to become interpreters by-and-by; while Indian boys and girls, who look like the children in ragged schools at home, are more likely to combine with the other more civilized elements of the labouring population by daily meeting in the same compound than by any other way.

7. The next group is at Black River. Four schools; three of them very small, and one shut up when I was there from the illness of the master.

(1.) Across the bay from the military post "La Laine" - - - 18 All creoles.

(2.) Couteau Raffin - - - - - 18 "

(3.) Chamarel - - - - - 17 "

(4.) The Morne are excellent rooms. The fluctuations have been between 69 and 30.

8. The other group has Vacans for its centre—

Central school, boys 48; girls 52.

Trois-aux-Ceris - - - - - 20 All creole.

Chemin Vert (infants) - - - - - 20 "

Nearer the Tamarind Falls - - - - - 35 "

Curepipe - - - - - 83 "

*Indian.*

9. A Bengalee school, between 30 and 40. A Tamil ditto. I have not the number at hand, but I believe it is nearly the same. Frequent personal inspection of the schools and localities has led me to the following conclusions:—

1. Numerous small schools are necessary for some time to come.

2. There is no reason, from any special circumstances which might be supposed to affect the Indian coolies, to look for more success here than has been met with in other places, by attempting to teach the young Indian children in a language which they do not understand.

3. The parents, if left to themselves, are by no means indisposed to let their children be educated.

4. It is almost impossible to secure regular attendance.

5. The most satisfactory arrangement in my judgment is that by which Indian schools are grafted on those established for the creoles, the Indian teachers being generally under the creole master; as head master of the establishment.

(Signed) VINCENT W. MAURITIUS.

## Sub-Enclosure 5 in No. 23.

To his Excellency Sir J. M. HIGGINSON, K.C.B., Governor and Commander-in-chief of Mauritius and Dependencies, &c. &c. &c.

SIR,

1. In compliance with the ordinance regulating the prisons of Mauritius, the Port Louis prison committee have the honour to lay before your Excellency this report\* on the establishment which has been placed under our superintendence.

2. The delay which has occurred in its presentation has been beyond our control, and due to a succession of hindrances against which it has been impossible to provide; but the

\* The enclosures to this report, being very voluminous, are not printed.



chief cause of its having been retarded until now is the desire we have had to forward it in as complete a shape as possible; thence arose the necessity of preparing statistical data, embracing many years, and the labour of compiling this information has naturally occupied more time than it would have been requisite to employ had we absolutely confined our review to the year for which this report is specially intended.

3. In order to establish points of comparison in the past, and to show how the particulars concerning 1856 relatively stand, we have carried our retrospect to the beginning of the year 1851, purposing thereby, not only to enable your Excellency better to appreciate those particulars, but also to connect this report with that which was submitted to your Excellency shortly after you assumed charge of the government of this colony.

4. That one of the first objects to which your Excellency's attention was devoted on your arrival at Mauritius was the state of the prisons of the island is evidenced by a memorandum which you were pleased to address on the 30th of January 1851 to the committee to whose management the Port Louis prison was then intrusted. This communication had been preceded by a personal inspection of the prison, in the course of which your Excellency had minutely inquired into and endeavoured fully to acquaint yourself with all the details connected with its direction and discipline.

5. Your Excellency's memorandum having pointed out to the committee several points in which the management and system of discipline followed had seemed to you objectionable, in an elaborate reply the causes to which those defects were ascribable were carefully explained by the committee.

6. Ever since it has been the constant aim of all the committees which have succeeded one another at the head of this establishment, no less to counteract and eradicate where possible those mischievous causes, than to improve and extend all existing means and measures of a beneficial tendency, and to introduce new ones whenever they seemed to hold out the probability of any advantage.

7. And now, whatever may still be the requirements of the Port Louis prison, and however wide a field of improvement there may still remain before it, we think that the results obtained by it, and the condition to which it has been brought, may be looked upon as satisfactory in several important respects, considering the numerous difficulties which have had to be contended against, and the many unavoidable disadvantages under which the establishment has had to labour.

8. The changes which occurred in the population of the Port Louis prison in the course of the year 1856 are set forth in detail in the statement marked (A.) which we herewith annex.

9. It thence appears that there was a much smaller number of prisoners remaining at the close of the year 1856 than at the end of 1855. A comparison with the previous years furthermore shows, that on the 31st December of every preceding year since 1851 there was a larger number of prisoners remaining on the prison lists.

Remained on 31st December—

1851	-	709	1854	-	514
1852	-	453	1855	-	597
1853	-	638	1856	-	412

10. The very great difference between the number remaining in 1856 and that in 1851 is however attributable to a cause which we think it proper to advert to at once; for unless it be borne in mind, neither the foregoing comparative statement, nor those which will follow in the course of this report, will appear in their true light.

11. When your Excellency first inspected the Port Louis prison (on the 25th January 1851), the inadequacy of its space for the number of its inmates attracted your attention; no less than 751 prisoners were then on the lists, a number which the establishment was quite unfit to contain.

12. This overcrowding of the Port Louis prison was the consequence of there being no prisons in the country districts wherein the prisoners convicted by the local courts, and sentenced to long periods of imprisonment, could safely be confined.\*

13. Port Louis was therefore the common receptacle of all the prisoners convicted in the country districts for whom consistent accommodation could not be locally provided.

14. Measures were immediately originated for the establishment of local prisons in the country districts, and, notwithstanding the delays inseparably incident to so extensive an undertaking, at the expiration of 1852 most of the new district prisons were in a sufficiently forward state to be used, and the Port Louis prison, then relieved from the exuberance of its population, became, what it has since remained, a place of confinement and house of correction for all prisoners convicted in the district of Port Louis alone.†

15. Whether any inference as to the increase or diminution of crime in Port Louis may rightly be drawn simply from the comparative statement above given of the number of

\* Only one rural district has to be excepted from this remark: Pamplemousses, the only district which had an establishment worthy of being called a prison.

† It has to be remarked, however, that the prisoners convicted in Port Louis are not solely those against whom charges arise in this district; many offenders are sent from the country districts to be tried at the criminal sessions of the supreme court; these, after conviction, undergo their sentences in the Port Louis prison.

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prisoners remaining on a corresponding day of each year during a period of several years that statement is fully supported by the following:—

Daily average number of prisoners of each year during the quinquennial period ending in 1856:

1852	-	574	1855	-	555
1853	-	502	1856	-	490
1854	-	494			

Which figures likewise tend to show a diminution in the amount of crime, particularly when it is considered that the population of Port Louis and that of the country districts, whence all offences which are beyond the pale of the district magistrates' powers are sent to Port Louis to be tried, have alike followed an increasing ratio.

16. Yet the total number of committals in 1856 was higher than in any previous year of the period above considered:—

Total No. of committals.					
1852	-	5679	1855	-	6619
1853	-	5852	1856	-	6710
1854	-	4286			

17. But the daily average number of prisoners having nevertheless decreased, this table of committals shows that the discharges in 1855 and 1856 were more than proportionably numerous, which indicates that the sentences under which the committals took place were mostly of short durations, and consequent on minor offences, thereby still supporting the conclusion that the amount of crime diminished.

18. In Appendix marked B. are given the committals of each year in detail, from 1852 to 1856 inclusive. This return shows a remarkable decrease in the committals for murder, 1852 and 1853 giving an aggregate amount of 79, and 1855 and 1856, together, no more than 27. An equally remarkable diminution is presented in the crime of poisoning, 1852 and 1853 giving an aggregate number of 6 cases, and 1855 and 1856 only 2 cases. The crime of arson shows a like abatement; 40 cases in 1852 and 1853, and 14 only in 1855 and 1856. Blows and wounds amounting to misdemeanors or crimes, and distinguished from blows and assaults only punished as police contraventions, also present a notable decline, from 71 cases in 1852 and 1853 to 35 in 1855 and 1856. The same remark applies to larceny with breaking, and larceny under other aggravating circumstances, which offences have decreased from 50 cases in 1852 and 1853 to 15 in 1855 and 1856.

19. On the other hand, manslaughter has increased from 4 cases in 1852 and 1853 to 25 in 1855 and 1856. This numerical augmentation, however, may be regarded as more than counterbalanced by the opposite result with regard to murder, particularly as this latter offence implies a far greater degree of criminality.

20. Rape, indecent assaults, perjury, and bribery have also augmented; and so have slander and defamation, assaults only amounting to police contraventions, larceny unattended with aggravating circumstances, and police contraventions.

21. Unnatural crime, coining, forgery, abduction of minors, and offences against the Merchant Shipping Act remained stationary.

22. Infractions of the municipal regulations only amounted to 1705 in 1855 and 1856; whereas they had reached the number of 2530 in 1852 and 1853. Vagrancy and desertion from masters, on the other hand, show a total number of 8884 committals in 1855 and 1856, against 6685 in 1852 and 1853. This difference, perhaps, is imputable rather to the increase of the Indian population, on the one hand, and, on the other, to the considerable augmentation which the police establishment underwent in 1855 and 1856, and the consequent enhancement of the means of detecting vagrants and deserters, than to an augmentation in the offences of vagrancy and desertion. However this be, it is obvious that on the whole the offences for which committals have numerically advanced in the two last years of the period here reviewed imply a less degree of criminality than those which have given lieu to smaller numbers of committals.\* This conclusion is still further supported by the details of Appendix marked C, which shows the number of prisoners remaining on the 31st December of each year from 1851 to 1856 inclusive, distinguishing the sentences which they were undergoing.

23. A favorable feature in this statement is the considerable reduction which it shows in the numbers of untried prisoners since 1851. This beneficial result is to be attributed to the creation of the district court in which offenders arrested are immediately brought to trial.

24. The subsequent return D. shows the number of prisoners sentenced to death in each year since 1851, distinguishing those whose sentences were executed from those who were imprisoned under commuted penalties.

25. In reference to the conduct of the prisoners of the establishment under our charge, we beg to refer your Excellency to Appendix marked E, which shows the number of prison offences punished in each year from 1851 to 1856 inclusive, and the relation in

\* The enhancement of the number of petty offences punished may in a great measure be attributed to their being more easily denounced and brought to trial than they formerly used to be; this benefit is due to the opening of the district courts.

which each number of punishments stands, with regard to the daily average of the prison population.

26. Measured by this test, the behaviour of the prisoners deserves a favourable report, although it has to be remarked that the comparative lowness of the relative per-centage of offenders punished in 1856 is partly to be attributed to there having been a larger number of the prisoners employed at public works in the country districts than in previous years.

27. In a report presented to the Secretary for the Home Department by the directors of convict prisons in England, we find that, with a daily average of 508 prisoners, no less than 560 punishments were awarded in Pentonville prison in the course of 1855; whereas only 19 punishments were awarded in the Port Louis prison last year, with a daily average of 397 prisoners in prison.

28. In Portland prison, during the year 1855, no less than 417 offenders were punished, with a daily average number of 1482 prisoners.

29. A comparison between these returns and our Appendix marked F. undeniably speaks in favor of the Port Louis prison, as far as regards the subordination and demeanor of its inmates.

30. Appendix F. sets forth the details of the prison offences and the prison punishments of 1856. In this return it is worthy of remark, that although Indian prisoners generally form more than two thirds of the prison population, only 5 offences out of 19 committed were Indians. Whereas Europeans, who generally form but a very small section of the prisoners, and scarcely ever amount to one tenth of the total number, were guilty of 8 offences out of the 19; a result clearly proving the more tractable nature of the Indian prisoner under the discipline of the prison.

31. The sanitary condition of the establishment, and the effects of the discipline on the health of the prisoners, are favorably reported on by the medical officer of the prison (Appendix G.)

32. The daily average number of sick throughout the year amounted to nine\*, and the per-centage of the sick, relative to the total number of prisoners in Port Louis, to 2.93. The total mortality, inclusive of the deaths from the two epidemic diseases which visited the island during the year, did not exceed 32. The annual per-centage of deaths, relative to the total of the prison population, since 1851, is shown in (Appendix H.)

33. Two cases of mental derangement occurred during the year; but neither of them was imputed to the discipline of the prison or any other cause connected with or inherent in the establishment. Both of the patients, on examination by the district commissioners of lunacy, were considered to have been labouring under intellectual weakness before they entered prison, and to have been, moreover, predisposed to insanity by their previous habits.

34. Two prisoners were pardoned by your Excellency on medical grounds. Appendix I. gives the particulars relative to their cases.

35. Appendix J. sets forth the details connected with the deaths which occurred during the year.

36. The arrangements for the treatment of sick prisoners were considered by your Excellency to be objectionable, when you inspected the establishment in January 1851. The sick were then all sent to the civil hospital. A dispensary was opened in the prison shortly afterwards, and all slight cases of illness have since been treated without the removal of the patients. It would doubtless have been still preferable to have all the sick treated within the precincts of the prison; but the inadequacy of the buildings, and the insufficiency of the space they afford, have precluded the adoption of the measures that would have been necessary for that purpose.

37. After having alluded to the health of the prisoners, we cannot refrain from noticing the serious loss sustained by the prison through the death of Dr. Rogers. This establishment had profited by his valuable services for a period of twenty-four years, during which the utmost attention was bestowed by him in the discharge of his duties.

38. It was not solely in the ministrations of his care to the sick that the skill and experience of Dr. Rogers were beneficial to this establishment; in the management of the prison your committee were often materially assisted by his sound judgment and solid advice. His death created a general feeling of regret, in which your committee sincerely concurred; and we are convinced that not less deeply within the prison than without that feeling was awakened by the remembrance of Dr. Rogers' mildness, urbanity, and invariable kindness of disposition.

39. The zeal and attention hitherto displayed by his successor lead us to believe that Dr. Rogers has been worthily replaced.

40. The buildings of the prison underwent no material changes during the year 1856. Their defects have therefore remained unremedied. We here allude to the imperfection and deficiencies that have arisen from the establishment having been constructed by distinct portions, at different periods, and not simultaneously on a comprehensive plan, calculated to meet the daily increasing wants of Port Louis, and devised so as to adapt itself to a predetermined system of discipline. Conceiving that the system now followed is susceptible of reform, and that the subject requires to be discussed and matured before

\* The sick here alluded to are the hospital sick. The casual ailments treated within the prison are not included in this average number.

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any opinion be given as to the nature of the reform needed, we do not here attempt to suggest any great amendments in the buildings.

41. In some minor details they were advantageously altered; the walls separating the work yards were reduced in height, which, without diminishing the security of the prison, or sacrificing any other advantage, has greatly improved the ventilation. The basins and cisterns were thoroughly repaired, and some covered over, with a view to preserve them from the action of the sun, and from the dust to which they had been exposed. This change has also proved beneficial.

42. The roofs were repaired; so were many of the pipes leading the water to the upper cells; and many parts of the yards were paved, so as to exclude damp and facilitate drainage.

43. All these improvements were executed by the prisoners themselves, under the supervision of the prison officers. While referring to the buildings, we deem it necessary to revert to a subject which we have already had occasion to bring under your Excellency's notice; that is, the want of a shed in the yard in which the criminals and misdemeanants are employed at stone breaking.

44. Whatever be the system of discipline followed in future, and the consequent employment of the prisoners, we do not think that stone-breaking will ever be relinquished as a mode of occupying at least a portion of the prisoners. The erection of a shed to preserve them from all inclemencies of weather seems to us to be indispensable. The necessity of incurring the expense has been alluded to and fully explained in the minutes of our proceedings dated 16th January and 5th February last.

45. Under the ordinance passed by your Excellency in Council shortly after your arrival in this colony (ordinance No. 27 of 1851), the Port Louis prison was divided into seven distinct wards for the seven under-mentioned classes of prisoners:—

1. Untried prisoners.
2. Prisoners convicted by district magistrates of minor offences.
3. Prisoners convicted by stipendiary magistrates.
4. Misdemeanants.
5. Criminals.
6. Debtors.
7. Females.

46. In practice it has not been found possible to maintain strict lines of demarcation between these seven classes of prisoners. The buildings being unsuited to such distinction was a first obstacle; another impediment was, the difficulty found in the regulation and appointment of work, and in the exercise of proper supervision with the limited number of prison officers on the establishment.

47. The first and two last classes, namely, the untried prisoners, debtors, and females, have, however, been kept quite apart from one another and from the other classes.

48. The vagrants also as far as possible, that is to say, when their number did not extend beyond the capabilities of their ward, were also held separate; but not unfrequently it was found necessary to lodge some of them amongst the misdemeanants.

49. The prisoners convicted of minor offences by district magistrates and the misdemeanants have in fact formed but one class. The law having traced no line distinguishing minor offences from misdemeanors, the amalgamation could indeed scarcely be avoided.

50. These last-mentioned prisoners, however, have been distinguished from the criminals in one essential respect; whereas the latter have been kept in separate confinement at night, that is, one in each sleeping cell, the former have been allowed to sleep in gangs, varying in number according to the space in each of the dormitories in which they were placed.

51. These are the classifications which have existed in the system of discipline hitherto pursued as regards the distributions of prisoners at night.

52. During the day the prisoners who remain within the prison are held in five separate classes:—

- 1st. The criminals and misdemeanants together\*;
- 2dly. The vagrants;
- 3dly. The debtors;
- 4thly. The untried prisoners;
- 5thly. The females.

53. The apportionment of the prison labour after the necessary number of prisoners have been withdrawn for the service of the prison is as follows:

All vagrants and prisoners committed for short periods are employed in the vagrants yard at stone breaking for the municipality, under the superintendence of an overseer.

The females are kept at labour within their ward under the direction of the matron.†

And the misdemeanants and criminals work together, forming two divisions, each directed by an overseer. Several descriptions of light labour, such as net making, &c., occupy one of these divisions, and stone breaking the other. The selection of the labour

\* In this class are also comprised military prisoners, and prisoners committed under the Merchant Shipping Act.

† Since the commencement of this year, measures have been taken, as your Excellency is aware, still more for the segregation of female prisoners.

for either one or the other of these gangs is not dependent on the nature of their sentences, but on the aptitude they show for the description of work which requires skill and previous practice.

54. In this essential department of penal discipline, viz., the distribution of labour to the prisoners, your committee consider that extensive reform is still required; the promiscuous employment of criminals and misdemeanants of all shades of criminality has hitherto been the inevitable consequence of the circumstances under which the prison has been placed; but your committee nevertheless think that it deserves an early examination, with a view to the adoption of means better calculated to carry out the ultimate objects of penal legislation.

55. An explanation of the principles on which the change should be devised cannot properly find room in this report; it would obviously be premature to refer to them in detail here; but a cursory glance at the subject leads us to believe that further distinctions, grounded on the nature of the sentences, a graduated system of punishments tending to reformation, the introduction of instructive labour, at least at the last stages of the punishment of criminals, the institution of a penal class for the ill-behaved, and a graduated system of rewards for the well-conducted, aggravations of discipline for the former, and relaxations of discipline for the latter, would be, amongst other measures, worthy of being examined and discussed, with the object of improving the system now in practice.

56. We are further inclined to believe that, as respects the system of discipline, some other amendments are requisite. For instance, we consider that it would be advisable to separate juvenile offenders from the others, and subject them to separate management. The present system of holding the untried prisoners in collective confinement also requires consideration, in our opinion; but these matters, as well as the improvements above proposed, would probably involve extensive alterations. They at all events require to be minutely and carefully discussed before we definitively shape them into recommendations for approval. We therefore reserve them for our future deliberation.

57. The employment of the prisoners throughout the year 1856 is represented by Appendix L. It shows that, with a total daily average of 490 prisoners, only 144 were employed in labour producing revenue, namely, 139 within the prison, and five by the municipality out of the prison. A larger number were employed by Government at public works than in previous years, 90 in Port Louis, and 193 in the country districts.

58. The actual produce of the work performed for money amounted to 533*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*, and the estimated value of the labour supplied to Government, reckoned at the same rate, attains the sum of 1,011*l.* 17*s.* 0*d.*, as is shown by statement marked M.

59. Important public works have been executed since 1851, with the assistance of the prisoners of Port Louis. The following is a list of those which are most worthy of notice:—

- Fort Adelaide completed.
- Military works executed at Fort George.
- Bridge path made over Ponce Mountain.
- Boundary walls built for the prison at Powder Mills.
- Several miles of road repaired at Pamplemousses.
- Several miles of road repaired at Plaines Wilhems.
- A bridge built at Reduit.
- A bridge built over Cascade River.
- A bridge built over Tamarin River.
- Several miles of Tamarin Road repaired.
- Lighthouses constructed at Flat Island and Cannoneer's Point.
- Quarantine works erected at Flat Island and Cannoneer's Point.

59. Useful as these public works undoubtedly are, we cannot help referring to the means by which they have been obtained. The employment of long-sentenced prisoners out of prison, before they have passed through any probationary or preparatory stage of discipline, is, in our opinion, erroneous in principle. The question whether it is advisable or not to renounce or modify the practice having already been carefully discussed, and our decision thereupon recorded in our minutes, we beg to submit to your Excellency an extract from our register of proceedings (Appendix P.), in order to explain what our opinion upon the matter then was.

60. We have now only to add, that we still unanimously agree in thinking that, except in cases of emergency, wherein the labour of prisoners may be urgently needed, and wherein the rules of prison discipline may have unavoidably to yield to the necessities of the public service, it is advisable that long-sentenced prisoners should be kept to work within doors, in order that they should be subjected to a more stringent system of discipline on the one hand, and on the other, that they should benefit by the moralizing influences which exist within the establishment, and of which they are deprived while placed in out stations.

61. In Statement N. are shown the different works performed in consideration of payments in cash, and the actual revenue of the prison since 1851. The decrease in the receipts of 1856 is owing to there having been fewer prisoners employed at labour productive of revenue, and to the total average number of prisoners having been smaller

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than in previous years. It is also in some measure ascribable to the fact that the demands of the municipality for prisoners' labour were more restricted in 1856 than formerly.

62. Statement marked O. gives the expenditure incurred on account of the prison since 1851. The amount spent in 1856 is higher than that of any of the four preceding years; but as the disbursements are not within our control, it is not in our power to state the reasons of the augmented cost. The only item in which we are aware of having suggested an increase of outlay is that of salaries. On our recommendation, your Excellency was pleased to place at the disposal of the Lord Bishop of Mauritius an unappropriated allowance of 60*l.* for the remuneration of the clergymen and catechist of the church of England, who had until then gratuitously attended the prison.

63. The moral and religious instruction of the prisoners has been directed by the above-mentioned ministers and catechist, and by a gentleman of the Roman catholic clergy. They attended the prison as follows:—

64. The Reverend A. Taylor (protestant) visited the prison on Tuesdays and Fridays from  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 4 to  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 5 p.m. The prisoners who attended his instructions during the year formed an average number of 40.

65. The Reverend Richard (protestant) attended on Tuesdays between  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 4 and  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 5 p.m., and on Sundays from 2 to 3 p.m., ministering to a congregation of seamen, soldiers, and other Europeans, amounting to an average number of about 10.

66. The Indian catechist, Koocehallee, (protestant,) attended on Sunday mornings from  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 7 to 9. His congregation formed an average of about 65. He besides visited the Indian prisoners in their wards and cells, and instructed them separately.

67. The Revd. I. Laval (Roman catholic) ministered to an average number of 40 attendants on Sunday morning from 4 to 5.

68. From this gentleman and from the Rev. A. Taylor, on both of whom we called for detailed reports on the results of their labours, and the means through which they realized those results, we have received the letters marked Q. and R., to which we beg leave to refer your Excellency for those particulars.

69. In the concluding paragraph of his report, the Rev. A. Taylor applies for a supply of elementary books and writing materials, and suggests that all criminals who show themselves disposed to learn be instructed in reading and writing. As the moralizing influence of secular instruction cannot be doubted, we beg to support Mr. Taylor's application, and recommend it to your Excellency's favorable consideration.

70. We have now to refer to the conduct of the prison officers during the year 1856. Except in one instance, when it became the unpleasant duty of your committee to suspend an overseer for gross misbehaviour, and to recommend his dismissal, we had every reason to be satisfied with the demeanor of the keeper and the subordinate officers of the prison. The keeper, although only lately appointed to his post, has made himself well acquainted with his various duties, and we have hitherto found him as zealous and attentive as we could desire.

71. Towards his predecessor in office, Mr. Weston, who died on the 22d April last, we deem it to be an act of justice to say, that during the time of his service he discharged his duties to the complete satisfaction of your committee, and that to his activity and zeal were due, in a great measure, the cleanliness and order which elicited your Excellency's praise on the occasion of your visit to the prison during the last prevalence of cholera in Port Louis.

72. We have also to record the death of our respectable and worthy colleague, the Honourable Captain West. His sterling private and public qualities are too well known to your Excellency to require any eulogium from us. We have only to add, that they peculiarly befitted him for the seat which he occupied at this board, and that his death has entailed on this establishment a most serious loss.

73. The list of the events which your committee had to deplore in the course of the year 1856 is, we grieve to say, not yet closed. One more remains to be referred to. We have reserved it for an especial mention.

74. The death of the late distinguished president of the committee, the Honourable P. D'Epiny, Esquire, cannot be left unnoticed in this report. His eminent talents lent a lustre to every institution in which he had a leading part to perform, and this establishment, which had been under his direction almost ever since its creation, was greatly indebted for its development and progress to his enlightened and judicious management. His name will ever remain conspicuously connected with the history of the Port Louis prison, as it is with every public department which either had the privilege of being placed under his guidance, or the benefit of being aided by his deep learning, sound counsels, and high capacities.

75. In conclusion, we beg to express our thanks to your Excellency for the support which you have always lent to our labours, and for the interest which you have taken in every practicable measure tending either to improve the moral or physical condition of the prisoners, or to promote the efficiency of the establishment under our charge.

We have, &c.

(Signed) W. G. DICKSON,  
President Prison Committee, and subscribing  
for the Committee.

STATEMENT showing approximately the Distribution and Employment of the Male Indian Immigrants at MAURITIUS on 15th December 1856.

DISTRICTS.	Number of Men and Boys under Engagement.	Number holding Licences.	Number in possession of Carts.	Vendors of Agricultural Produce on their own account.	Vendors of Milk on their own account.	TOTAL.
Port Louis	4,955	465	359	183*	—	5,662
Pamplemousses	14,676	530	373	358	173	15,922
Rivière du Rempart	8,042	78	56	113	42	8,432
Placé	15,858	909	150	310	—	14,497
Grand Port	8,545	173	76	39	39	8,779
Savanne	5,562	40	37	136	11	5,886
Falaises Wilhelms	5,546	145	152	407	88	10,164
Moka	3,704	41	68	335	13	4,099
Black River	—	61	88	258	11	—
	78,188	1,592	1,363	2,004	382	78,529
Add—Employed in Public Offices and Police						321
At Immigration Depot awaiting Passage						500
In Prison, not under Engagement						20
"New Immigrants" whose Engagements had just expired, and "Old Immigrants" under oral Engagements (for one month) or not under any Engagement, including Carriers, Grass and Wood Cutters, Charcoal-burners, &c.						13,876
Children not engaged						10,000
TOTAL						102,825

\* Milk-sellers included.

Colonial Secretary's Office, March 1857.

Colonial Secretary.

Sub-Enclosure 7 in No. 23.

"Castor" in Simon's Bay, 14th April 1857.

His Excellency Sir JAMES M. HIGGINSON, C.B., &c. &c. &c., Mauritius.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you, that in compliance with the desire expressed in your Excellency's letter of the 24th of November last, that during the cruise which I was then about to take to the east coast of Africa I should make inquiry as to the practicability of the Mauritius being supplied with free labour from the coast, I made special inquiry on the subject, and I regret to say that I have been led to the conclusion that there are no free labourers to be procured on any part of the coast. I visited Fazy in 2° south latitude, and, on returning south, Lamoo, Mombas, Zanzibar, Tonga (Cape Delgado), Ibo, Mozambique, and Angora; and from the information I obtained at these places I am persuaded that no natives can be brought away without first virtually purchasing their freedom. The Portuguese governors allowed this to be the case, and defended the emigration on the score of benefit to the emancipated negroes, and of the civilizing influence their improved habits would exercise upon the population of the coast after their return, and the governor-general of Mozambique persisted in repeating his conviction as to the expediency of permitting the exportation of labourers, though not denying that the result in regard to the interior of Africa would have the same evil effect as the old slave trade. The portaria peremptorily forbidding the continuance of emigration had not officially reached his Excellency from Lisbon, though he had received a private copy. The governor of Ibo had not heard of its existence until he permitted me to read to him a copy which was in my possession. They informed me that no more emigration should be permitted until the arrival of further instructions on the subject.

2. Mr. Consul Sanby stated that about a thousand free negroes might be induced to emigrate for a few years to Mauritius from Johanna and Comoro Island, but this is a number not worth taking into account, and supposing the numbers willing to emigrate were to increase, the same impediment to their introduction into Mauritius would exist which is applicable to all other Arab places, that not one woman would consent to go.

3. Bali in Boyanna Bay, on the west side of the island, is the only place in Madagascar where I touched. There I learnt that no free negroes, neccslaves or others, were to be procured on the west coast of Madagascar. The French Jesuit priests of that place informed me that the re-union government, by reason of the emigration of late years from Madagascar having caused a considerable slave trade to be carried on from the east coast of Africa, had ordered that no more immigrants should be introduced from Madagascar. If this information of the Jesuits was correct, the cessation of Madagascar immigration must have been of short duration, for the "Frolic" has just come from St. Augustine's Bay, where she found three French vessels bound to Bourbon with emigrants, having a government officer on board, who made no secret of his occupation.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) W. D. TROTTER, Commodore.





Denomination.	Position.	Area.	Population.	Name of Original Grantee.	Conditions upon which Grant was made.	Name of present Holder.	Terms upon which held.	Products.
L'Isle Plate	Latitude, 5° 48' South, Longitude, 55° 57' East.	1 mile in length	-	Deshais	-	Hairan	-	-
L'Isle D'Albtra	Latitude, 5° 23' South, Longitude, 46° 10' East.	-	15	Malingot, S <sup>r</sup>	-	T. D'Oddy	-	-
Isle aux Vaches Marries	Latitude, 5° 43' South, Longitude, 53° 30' East.	-	-	Robert, T.	-	-	-	-
Amsterdam	Latitude, 5° 32' South, Longitude, 53° 30' East.	11 miles in circumference.	-	-	-	-	-	-
St. Paul's	Latitude, 5° 32' South, Longitude, 53° 30' East.	10 miles long, 3 do. broad.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Redigovot	Latitude, 5° 32' South, Longitude, 53° 30' East.	36 miles long, 12 do. broad.	425	-	-	-	-	-
Islets adjoining : Crabbe and Fox. L'Ermilage Pélagies Incorps Bourbe St. David	Latitude, 18° 40' South, Longitude, 53° 11' 30' East.	-	-	Muzanon Legros Bogot, G. Charnod, Widow S. Antoino & Co. Bousquet, Richard, Stone, and Blacord.	-	Widow Simon Legros & Co. Bogot, G. Charnod, Widow S. Antoino & Co. Bousquet, Richard, Stone, and Blacord.	-	-
Diago Garcia	Latitude, 19° 17' South, Longitude, 50° 15' East.	-	249	J. R. Cayeux and Majastre	-	-	-	-
The Six Islands	Latitude, 5° 10' South, Longitude, 71° 35' East.	-	25	Majastre and Duperré S <sup>r</sup>	-	-	-	-
Three Brothers	Latitude, 5° 10' South, Longitude, 71° 35' East.	-	22	Hambé, A. Maure, Mrs. Fitzpatrick.	-	-	-	-
Salomon Islands (otherwise called 11 Islands).	Latitude, 5° 25' South, Longitude, 72° 35' East.	-	91	Allain, Widow, and W. Stize	-	-	-	-
Veron Banks (74 in number)	Latitude, 5° 25' South, Longitude, 72° 35' East.	-	60	Biget and Allain, Maléville, Majastre, Palvenda, & Co.	-	-	-	-
Legent Island	Latitude, 5° 30' South, Longitude, 72° 35' East.	2 miles long, 1 do. wide.	-	Majastre & Co.	-	-	-	-
Isle St. George and Hooper, supposed to be submerged.	Latitude, 7° 10' South, Longitude, 54° 6' East.	-	-	Basil Neplew, Grupeu	-	-	-	-
Agalega	Latitude, 10° 30' 30" South, Longitude, 56° 30' East.	11 miles long, 1 do. broad.	313	L. Barbé	-	-	-	-
Coelivi, St. Enayois	Latitude, 7° 15' South, Longitude, 54° 35' East.	8 miles long	23	Lacourbeque & Co.	-	-	-	-
Isle de Norn	Latitude, 10° 30' South, Longitude, 54° 35' East.	-	14	Boudet, senior, F. Sullivan, Esq.	-	-	-	-
Previdencia	Latitude, 9° 12' South, Longitude, 53° 17' East.	2 miles long, 1 do. broad.	7	Marguet, Dr. B. Avier, Labrousse, C.	-	-	-	-

## PORT OF PORT LOUIS, MAURITIUS.

STATEMENT of Goods imported from the Dependencies of Mauritius in each of the last Three Years.

## IMPORTS FROM AGALEGA.

ARTICLES IMPORTED.	1854.		1855.		1856.	
	Quantity.	Probable Value.	Quantity.	Probable Value.	Quantity.	Probable Value.
Beer	—	£ s. d.	—	£ s. d.	362 Hds.	1,167. 0 0
Corn, Grain, Meal, and Flour, Maize	100 Bags.	20 0 0	440 Bags.	88 0 0	852 Bags.	183 5 0
Fruits, dried, Cocoa Nuts	175 in No.	0 8 0	—	—	—	—
Oil, Cocoa Nut	75 Casks.	150 0 0	28 Casks.	70 0 0	250 Casks.	550 0 0
Tortoiseshell	—	—	—	—	2 Cases.	30 0 0
Wood, Boards and Planks	—	—	—	—	40 in No.	4 0 0
Casks, empty	—	—	—	—	125 in No.	44 2 0

## IMPORTS FROM GOTIVY.

Oil, Cocoa Nut	44 Casks.	110 0 0	—	—	—	—
Peanut	22 Bags.	5 2 0	—	—	—	—
Tortoiseshell	1 Case	15 0 0	—	—	—	—

## IMPORTS FROM DIEGO GARCIA.

Animals, Asses	—	—	20 in No.	140 0 0	20 in No.	140 0 0
Cocoa Nut Fibres	—	—	—	—	90 Bags.	3 10 0
Copper Sheets and Nails	Cwt. 4. 2. 0.	14 5 0	21 Bags.	5 0 0	—	—
Cordage Coir	—	—	—	—	—	—
Corn, Grain, Meal, and Flour, Maize	88 Bags.	17 10 0	2 Bundles.	4 0 0	7 Barrels.	7 0 0
Fish, dried and salted	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fish, Turtle	4 in No.	1 10 0	—	—	—	—
Fruits, dried, Cocoa Nuts	10,000 in No.	30 0 0	45,000 in No.	30 0 0	5,000 in No.	15 0 0
Oil, Cocoa Nut	1,199 Casks.	2,922 10 0	1,579 Casks.	3,247 10 0	654 Casks.	1,595 0 0
Tin Plates	—	—	—	—	2 Boxes.	9 0 0
Tortoiseshell	1 Case.	15 0 0	—	—	1 Case.	15 0 0
Wood, Boards and Planks	—	—	15 in No.	1 9 0	—	—
Timber	30 Pieces.	2 10 0	180 Pieces.	2 0 0	—	—

## IMPORTS FROM EAGLE ISLAND.

Oil, Cocoa Nut	—	—	90 Casks.	225 0 0	—	—
Peanut	—	—	30 Bags.	4 10 0	—	—
Wood, Timber	—	—	300 Pieces.	15 0 0	—	—

## IMPORTS FROM PEROS BANHOS.

Corn, Grain, Meal, and Flour, Maize	39 Bags.	7 16 0	—	—	—	—
Oil, Cocoa Nut	225 Casks.	595 0 0	415 Casks.	1,037 10 0	519 Casks.	1,297 10 0
Tortoiseshell	3 Cases.	45 0 0	—	—	1 Case.	15 0 0
Wood, Boards and Planks	21 Planks.	3 9 0	—	—	—	—

## IMPORTS FROM RODRIGUES.

Animals, viz. Asses	7 in No.	49 0 0	1 in No.	7 0 0	13 in No.	91 0 0
Cows and Oxen	34 in No.	170 0 0	3 in No.	15 0 0	22 in No.	110 0 0
Goats	419 in No.	209 10 0	213 in No.	108 10 0	787 in No.	393 10 0
Pigs	15 in No.	9 10 0	22 in No.	14 10 0	17 in No.	9 10 0
Sheep	12 in No.	5 12 0	—	—	—	—
Bread and Biscuit	—	—	—	—	Cwt. 10.	10 0 0
Copper Sheets and Nails	Cwt. 2. 2. 30.	7 4 0	—	—	—	—
Corn, Grain, Meal, and Flour, Beans	206 Bags.	91 15 0	123 Bags.	32 18 0	339 Bags.	101 14 0
Wheat Flour	—	—	—	—	Cwt. 8.	4 0 0
Fish, dried, and salted	3,584 Bundles.	2,442 0 0	4,790 Bundles.	2,395 0 0	1,849 Bundles.	2,592 10 0
	65,000 Lbs.	—	—	—	2,183 Boxes.	—
	—	—	—	—	1,148 Packages.	—
Fish, pickled	—	—	—	—	1 Barrel.	5 0 0
Meat, salted and cured	—	—	—	—	Cwt. 20.	70 0 0
Oil, Spern or Fish	2 Casks.	31 10 0	—	—	Cwt. 64. 1. 18.	125 0 0
Whalebone	—	—	950 in No.	2 1 8	—	—
Wood, Spokes	—	—	—	—	—	—
Timber	500 Pieces.	25 0 0	—	—	—	—

ARTICLES IMPORTED.	1854.		1855.		1856.	
	Quantities.	Probable Value.	Quantities.	Probable Value.	Quantities.	Probable Value.

## IMPORTS FROM ST. BRANDON.

Fish, dried and salted	16,000 Lbs. and 32,000 in No.	204 0 0	14,000 Lbs.	140 0 0	6,000 Lbs. 121,500 in No.	445 0 0
Fish, Turtle	32 in No.	2 15 0	—	—	18 in No.	3 5 0
Wood, Spokes	—	—	1,537 in No.	12 14 2	—	—
Timbers	—	—	30 Pieces.	1 0 0	—	—

## IMPORTS FROM SETCHILLER.

Apparel	—	—	—	—	4 Trunks.	8 0 0
Arms and Ammunition, Lead Shot	—	—	—	—	Cwt. 16, l. 12.	12 19 6
Bags, empty, Vases	63,005 in No.	945 0 0	78,100 in No.	1,171 10 0	121,372 in No.	1,850 0 0
Baskets and Basket Work	—	—	—	—	2 Cases.	4 0 0
Books, printed	—	—	—	—	Cwt. 2.	20 0 0
Brushes and Brooms	3,000 in No.	2 0 0	5,500 in No.	5 10 0	34 Bags.	3 12 0
					1 Case.	—
Cabinet and Upholstery Ware	—	—	—	—	1 Armoire.	4 0 0
Cocoa	4 Bags.	2 0 0	—	—	—	—
Coffee	2 Bags.	4 0 0	1 Bag.	2 0 0	—	—
Confectionary (Eggs)	—	—	2 Demijohns.	1 0 0	—	—
Copper Sheets and Nails	—	—	150 Bags.	30 0 0	Cwt. 17, 0. 24.	72 1 0
Corn, Grain, Meal, and Flour, Maize	25 Bags.	11 12 0	10 Bags.	5 0 0	—	—
Cotton Manufactures	—	—	60 Yards.	0 10 0	—	—
Cotton Wool	48 Bags.	24 0 0	10 Bags.	5 0 0	20 Bags.	10 0 0
Fish, dried and salted	34 Bundles, 10 Lbs. and 1 Case.	12 12 0	10 Bundles.	5 0 0	5,000 Lbs.	30 0 0
Fruits, dried, Cocoa Nuts	81,522 in No. and 2 Bags.	164 0 0	124,564 in No.	242 0 0	128,067 in No. and 26 Bags.	256 0 0
Glass Bottles	—	—	2 Doz.	0 2 0	—	—
Groceries	11 Cases.	23 0 0	—	—	4 Cases.	8 0 0
Haberdashery, Mercury, and Millinery	—	—	—	—	2 Bags.	2 10 0
Hardware and Cutlery	—	—	1 Iron Chain, Scale, and Weights.	40 0 0	112 Packages	22 18 0
Hats, Straw	22 Cases and 120 in No.	75 0 0	12 Cases.	40 0 0	81 Cases.	202 10 0
Honey	—	—	3 Cases.	1 0 0	—	—
Iron, Bar	—	—	—	—	Tons 16, 12.	122 14 0
Iron, Wrought	—	—	—	—	Cwt. 426.	312 12 0
Juice of Lemons and Limes	12 Barrels.	10 10 0	25 Barrels.	37 10 0	4 Casks.	8 12 0
Linen Manufactures, Sailcloth	—	—	—	—	170 Yards.	12 0 0
Meat, salted and cured	1 Barrel.	2 0 0	—	—	—	—
Moss, Rock	—	—	—	—	4 Bags.	2 0 0
Musical Instruments	—	—	1 Case.	8 0 0	—	—
Oil, Cocoa Nut	348 Casks.	205 0 0	370 Casks.	225 0 0	370 Casks.	1,425 0 0
Sperm or Fish	2 Casks.	24 10 0	37 Casks.	388 10 0	8 Casks.	84 0 0
Pickles and Sauces	—	—	3 Packages.	1 10 0	—	—
Peonac	—	—	10 Bags.	1 10 0	—	—
Provisions, preserved	—	—	3 Kegs.	10 0 0	1 Cask.	2 0 0
Soap	500 Bales.	80 0 0	—	—	287 Bales.	45 12 0
Spice	—	—	—	1,368 8 10	—	—
Spices, Cloves	142 Bags.	562 0 0	22 Bags.	80 0 0	18 Bags and 1 Case.	72 0 0
Stones, Marble	—	—	—	—	8 Slabs.	2 0 0
Sugar	—	—	451 Bags.	451 0 0	128 Bags.	122 0 0
Tobacco, Leaf	11 Bags, 2 Cases, and 12 Bales.	21 15 0	2 Packages.	3 0 0	24 Bags, 2 Cases, and 1 Cask.	12 0 0
Manufactured	1,845 Carrots and 1 Case.	182 2 4	250 Carrots, 2 Cases, and 1 Barrel.	54 2 0	850 Carrots, 3 Cases, 29 Bags, and 1 Cask.	95 15 4
Tortoiseshell	33 Cases and 1 Barrel.	510 0 0	31 Cases and 1 Barrel.	480 0 0	27 Cases.	405 0 0
Wax, Bees'	2 Cases.	5 0 0	3 Cases and 1 Cask.	12 10 0	—	—
Wine	—	—	15 Doz. Bottles.	0 12 0	—	—
Wood, Boards and Planks	257 in No.	28 14 0	583 in No.	58 8 0	232 in No.	39 4 0
Naves	—	—	150 in No.	3 0 0	—	—
Oars	—	—	90 in No.	22 10 0	—	—
Spokes	23,252 in No.	123 15 4	11,890 in No.	93 1 2	3,101 in No.	25 16 10
Timber	87 Pieces.	4 7 0	104 Pieces.	2 4 0	48 Pieces.	2 2 0
Woodware	2 Bags.	2 0 0	12 Bags.	4 0 0	3 Pieces.	0 10 0
Goods not enumerated	2 Cases and 3 Barrels.	30 0 0	25 Cases.	40 0 0	36 Cases.	60 0 0

ARTICLES IMPORTED.	1854.		1855.		1856.	
	Quantities.	Probable Value.	Quantities.	Probable Value.	Quantities.	Probable Value.
IMPORTS FROM SIX ISLANDS.						
Wood, Boards and Planks - -	—	£ s. d. —	140 in No.	£ s. d. 14 0 0	—	£ s. d. —
IMPORTS FROM SOLOMON ISLANDS.						
Copper Sheets and Nails - -	—	—	Cwt 3. 5. 1.	17 17 1	—	—
Corn, Grain, Meal, and Flour, Maize -	—	—	50 Bags.	4 0 0	—	—
Fruits, dried, Cocos Nuts - -	10,000 in No. and 8 Bags.	21 0 0	—	—	—	—
Oil, Cocos Nuts - - -	284 Casks.	710 0 0	418 Casks.	1,445 0 0	343 Casks.	855 0 0
Peanut - - -	—	—	60 Bags.	3 0 0	100 Bags.	15 0 0
Wood, Boards and Planks - -	640 in No.	64 0 0	766 in No.	78 12 0	500 in No.	50 0 0
Firewood - - -	1 Lot and 10 Cords.	8 0 0	—	—	—	—
Shingles - - -	30,000 in No.	30 0 0	42,800 in No.	63 16 0	65,000 in No.	65 0 0
Spikes - - -	—	—	—	—	840 in No.	7 0 0
Timber - - -	1,693 Pieces.	72 15 0	1,904 Pieces.	55 4 0	1,060 Pieces.	53 0 0

## SEYCHELLES.

SEYCHELLES.

No. 24.

No. 24.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir J. M. HIGGINSON to the  
Right Honourable H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 161.)

Mauritius, August 20, 1857.

(Received October 23, 1857.)

SIR,

REFERRING to paragraph 48 of my report, accompanying the Blue Book for 1856, I now beg leave to transmit herewith a copy of a report upon the condition and prospects of the Seychelles, which I have recently received from the civil commissioner of those dependencies.

2. This report will be found to confirm generally the impressions that I then ventured to express of the state of these dependencies during the past year.

3. The only points that appear to call for special observation from me are the proposed introduction of statute labour for the construction of new roads; the prospective imposition of an export tax on cocoa nut oil; and the withholding of 100*l.* annually from the civil chaplain by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, consequent on the nomination of a protestant bishop of Mauritius.

4. In regard to the first, I have always been in favour of the measure, and I have long since recommended for Seychelles the adoption of a system of statute labour similar to that which has been found to work so satisfactorily in Ceylon, and I only awaited intimation of the consent of the inhabitants to the measure to enable me to give effect to it, and an ordinance for the purpose will now be introduced to the Legislative Council.

5. I entertain considerable doubts as to the expediency of taxing the exportation of oil, the manufacture of which should, I think, be especially promoted and fostered, as the only branch of industry likely to induce the investment of capital, or to yield returns sufficiently remunerative to prevent its withdrawal to more encouraging fields of enterprise.

6. In my opinion the imposition of a light "house and land tax" would be the more preferable mode of raising the revenue required.

7. And, lastly, I would submit the proposal of the civil commissioner for the renewal of the annual grant of 100*l.* to the indulgent consideration of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. Under the provisions of Ordinance No. 6. of 1856 for promoting education, the Government would be enabled to contribute an equivalent amount, and so accomplish the highly important object aimed at, of extending the benefits of education to the people beyond the limits of the town of Victoria in Mahé, to which they are now necessarily restricted.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) J. M. HIGGINSON.

The Right Honourable H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 24.

Encl. in No. 24.

Victoria Town, Mahé, Seychelles,  
July 10, 1857.

To his Excellency Sir J. M. Higginson, K.C.B., &amp;c. &amp;c. &amp;c.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency my report upon the condition and prospects of these islands, to accompany the Blue Book.

2. In my report for 1855 I had the gratification to point out the increase in the revenue of this dependency during that and the two previous years, owing to the imposition of certain taxes; and I am happy to inform your Excellency that those laws continue to act beneficially.

3. The collections for last year exceed those for 1855 by 758*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.* I account for this chiefly from the increased duty levied on colonial spirits; for on looking to the returns for 1853 I find the duty on still licences and spirits amounts to only 676*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*; whereas last year it came to 1576*l.* 15*s.* My reasons for comparing the duties collected on this item for last year with

STYCHELLS.

those for 1853, in preference to 1855, is, that four thousand one hundred and forty-eight gallons of rum, manufactured in 1854, previous to Ordinance No. 26. of 1853 coming into force in this dependency, paid at the old rate of 1s. 6d. per gallon, which sum was accounted for in the receipts for that year, but the liquor was not actually consumed till the following one.

4. Cheering as this result is, I regret to find the assets do not yet cover the expenditure; but in the present deplorable state of poverty of the dependency I cannot recommend any further taxation.

5. The last census of these islands was taken in 1852, when the population was computed at 6,906, since which time I find, on reference to the register of births and deaths, that up to the 31st December last the former exceeded the latter by 196, so that it would appear the population is increasing, and already is greater than it was in time of slavery, which shows there are hands enough without immigrants; but so long as proprietors employ the ex-apprentices on the squatting system, as is the case at present, there must always be a scarcity of labour, as the wants of the black man are so few and easily obtained from the productiveness of the soil.

6. Another great impediment to agricultural industry, it appears to me, is the difficulty of transport, and it was this that led me to point out to your Excellency, in my report of last year, how desirable I considered the making of roads would be in this island. I have conversed with many of the inhabitants on this subject, and they fully coincide with me upon the great advantages to be derived by such communication, as conveyance on animals or carts would be so much cheaper than the present method of sending produce to this (the only port) by boats for exportation, which swallows up all profit which otherwise might be derived, and deters proprietors from cultivating their lands accordingly; but were a ready communication opened with this town and other parts of the island, every inducement would be held out to plant, and land would then become too valuable to give up to squatters or allowed to remain waste. In my report of the fifth August last, on the subject of road making, I proposed that 4000*l.* should be advanced from the Treasury for that purpose, to be afterwards recovered by a land tax to be confined to this island (the only one of the group where the roads would be practicable or necessary), which would soon pay off the debt, and by the increased value thus given to lands could not be objected to by the proprietors. I could have wished to have been able to recommend the imposition of this tax at once, but at present more than half the island is uncultivated, and I am at the moment advised that any further direct taxation would be the ruin of many respectable families; but statute labour would meet the consent of the whole population.

7. The chief production of these islands is cocoa nut oil, the manufacture of which is increasing rapidly, 25,994 imperial gallons having been shipped from this port last year for Mauritius, whereas only 15,000 were exported the year previous; and, taking into consideration the trees not yet come to maturity, and the numbers yet daily planted, I am of opinion that the production of cocoa nuts will be so great in a very few years as to render the exportation of oil of most considerable importance, and I would suggest that a small tax might then be levied on this article.

8. I annex a list of the other exports from these islands during last year, with their approximate value, the prices varying sometimes.

9. Little crime has taken place during the last year, and no case has occurred requiring to be brought before the assizes. The prison is now in a secure state, with well-ventilated solitary cells for carrying out discipline, which will no doubt be the means of diminishing still more the number of minor offences.

10. I regret to say I have as yet received no reply to an application forwarded from this upwards of eight months ago, praying for a grant in support of the schools here, agreeable to the provisions contained in Ordinance No. 6. of 1856; but, no doubt, press of business has been the cause of this delay. I have, nevertheless, continued to keep up the schools, and I hope there will exist no difficulty in recovering from Government the sums advanced for that purpose. The withdrawal of all assistance from the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel is a great loss, but one that might be remedied, I hope, upon representation, as I am under the impression that 100*l.* a year from the civil chaplain in this dependency, upon a bishop being nominated to the diocese of Mauritius had no reference to the salaries paid in addition to the schoolmaster and mistress here and the Bible readers at Praslin, amounting to 144*l.* a year,

from which is to be deducted the school money paid by the children, which upon a rough calculation would reduce the expense to 100*l.* a year. Could this sum be again granted, it would contribute very much to the moral advancement of this population; and, if met by a similar sum from Government, four or five more schools might be established in the more populous districts as well as on some of the other islands, which is much required, as it is only those children whose parents reside in or near the town of Victoria who can profit by the schools now existing. I need not point out to your Excellency the importance of this measure, and feel assured you will lend your best influence towards its advancement.

11. It is with infinite satisfaction I have to report that the sum of 400*l.* has been subscribed towards building a protestant church in this town, which, together with a similar sum from Government, will almost suffice for the purpose. A plan was forwarded to me by his lordship the Bishop of Mauritius, which I submitted to several practical men, for them to form an estimate of the probable expense, and they computed it at 1,000*l.* This I lost no time in communicating to the lord bishop, who has conveyed to me his approval of the same, and the sanction of the Church Association of Mauritius that the building should commence at once. I have thereupon called for public tenders, and accepted the offer sent in by two highly respectable inhabitants, Messrs. Dubois and Dennis Calais, who have agreed to carry out the plan for the sum estimated. Preparations have already commenced, though probably some weeks will elapse before the first stone is laid. It is to be finished in two years, by which time I trust a sufficient sum will have been collected to make up the existing deficiency.

12. I anticipated many advantages from the alteration in the postal arrangements between Mauritius and Aden, by affording a quick and regular communication with these islands; but the steamer has only touched here once, although it is now seven months since the new line was established. This, I need not say, has disappointed me much, as, besides the very great inconvenience to the public service arising from the present uncertain means of corresponding, people who would visit this dependency from Mauritius, and be the means of bringing money into the country, are deterred from doing so, for the same reason; and I still hope measures will be adopted to induce the steamers to touch here.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. T. WADE,  
Civil Commissioner.

LIST OF ARTICLES (being the Growth, Produce, and Manufacture of the Seychelles and Amirantes) exported to Mauritius during the year 1856, together with their approximate Value.

No.	Quality.	Approximate Number.	Rate.	Approximate Value.
82	Cases, Straw Hats - -	8,400	2s. each -	840 0 0
1,607	Carrots of Tobacco - -	1,607	2s. each -	160 14 0
19	Bags, Cloves - - -	1,900	2 <i>l.</i> per cent. -	38 0 0
433	Boards - - - -	6,495 feet	10 <i>d.</i> per foot -	270 12 6
3,667	Spoke Wheels - - -	3,667	1 <i>l.</i> 12s. per cent.	51 15 5
113,972	Vacon Bags - - -	113,972	1 <i>l.</i> 12s. per cent.	1,823 11 0 <i>½</i>
2,374	Cocos de Mer - - -	2,374	2 <i>l.</i> 8s. per cent.	56 19 6 <i>½</i>
279	Parents, Soap - - -	5,580	5 <i>d.</i> per lb. -	116 5 0
92,220	Cocconuts - - - -	92,220	4s. per cent. -	181 8 10
8	Barrels, Fish Oil - -	240 vetts	8s. per vett -	96 0 0
34	Bags, Cocconuts - -	3,400	4s. per cent. -	6 16 0
6	Cases, Cahanane (common turtle shell). - - -	200	3s. per lb. -	30 0 0
3,000 lbs.	Saltfish - - - -	3,000	1 <i>l.</i> per cent. -	30 0 0
4	Barrels, Lemon Juice - -	80 vetts	4s. per vett -	16 0 0
13,000 lbs.	Sugar - - - -	23 000	1 <i>l.</i> 4s. per cent.	276 0 0
120	Bags, Indian Corn - -	12,000	4s. per cent. -	24 0 0
220	Cases, Tortoise-shell - -	800	1 <i>l.</i> per lb. -	800 0 0
Total -		- - -	- - -	4,828 0 4





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PART III.  
AFRICAN SETTLEMENTS AND  
ST. HELENA.

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# PART III.—AFRICAN SETTLEMENTS AND ST. HELENA.

SIERRA LEONE.

## SIERRA LEONE.

No. 25.

No. 25.

COPY of DESPATCH from GOVERNOR HILL to the Right Hon.

H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 119.)

Government House,  
Sierra Leone, June 30, 1857.

(Received August 10, 1857.)

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the following Report on the Blue Book of this colony for the year 1856.

I have, &c.

(Signed) STEPHEN J. HILL,

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.,

Governor.

&c.      &c.      &c.

### *Taxes and Duties.*

The impost placed under this general division may be subdivided into—

#### *Taxes.*

Which include a tax on houses and lands levied at a minimum rate of 5*s.* on all property under the value of 5*l.*, and 5 per cent. on the value of property exceeding 5*l.* per annum. These rates are payable once in each year.

This tax also includes an annual one of 1*l.* on each house, and 2*l.* on each carriage kept in the colony; and during the past year a money payment at a low rate was substituted for much of the labour that had previously been bestowed on the repairs of the roads.

It was not, however, considered advisable to discontinue altogether the practice of exacting labour for the purpose of keeping in repair the roads and highways of the colony from persons who, possessed of sufficient health, were not in circumstances to contribute in any other way to so desirable an object.

The following return will show the amount derived from the system of direct taxation since the year 1852, being the first in which the house and land tax was imposed.

Year.	House and Land.			Horse and Carriage.			Road.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1852	3,075	8	2	139	0	0	-	-	-	3,214	8	2
1853	2,438	17	6	123	0	0	-	-	-	2,561	17	6
1854	2,679	5	3	147	0	0	-	-	-	2,826	5	3
1855	2,717	6	1	125	0	0	-	-	-	2,842	6	1
1856	3,004	12	2	124	0	0	126	0	6	3,254	12	8
	13,915	9	2	658	0	0	126	0	6	14,699	9	8

#### *Licences.*

These are made up of a tax on spirits retailed in the colony, at the rate of 50*l.* per annum payable yearly, or 60*l.* per annum if payable half yearly, in the city of Freetown; in the villages the rate is reduced to 20*l.* per annum if paid annually, or 30*l.* per annum if paid half-yearly; and by an ordinance which passed on the 5th November 1856, quarterly licences may be obtained at the rate of 20*l.* per quarter, equal to 80*l.* per annum in Freetown; and 10*l.* per quarter, equal to 40*l.* per annum, in the rural districts. There is also a licence to ply boats and canoes at the rate of 10*s.* per annum; and an auctioneer's licence of 25*l.* per annum, with some further trifling charges for pilot and other licences.

The following statement shows the amount derived from these sources for the five years last past. SIERRA LEONE.

Year.	Spirit Licences.	Boats and Canoes.	Auctioneers and others.	Total.
1852	£ s. d. 1,495 18 0	£ s. d. 55 0 0	£ s. d. 59 5 0	£ s. d. 1,610 3 0
1853	1,729 7 0	119 0 0	35 5 0	1,883 12 0
1854	1,244 13 0	253 0 0	25 0 0	1,522 13 0
1855	1,531 13 4	198 0 0	77 0 0	1,806 13 4
1856	2,010 0 0	178 10 0	77 0 0	2,265 10 0

### Import Duties.

These are imposed under an ordinance of the Governor and Council of the 12th February 1853, according to a tariff hereunder detailed.

		£ s. d.
Ale and beer	per gallon	0 0 6
Ditto in bottles	per dozen	0 1 0
Bacon and hams	per cwt.	0 5 0
Beef and pork	"	0 5 0
Bread and biscuit	"	0 2 6
Bricks	per 1,000	0 5 0
Brandy	per gallon	0 2 0
Butter	per cwt.	0 8 0
Candles (not tallow)	"	0 9 0
Clocks, under 20s. value	each	0 5 0
Clocks, above 20s. value	"	0 10 0
Cheese	per cwt.	0 5 0
Cigars	per 1,000	0 8 0
Cordials	per gallon	0 2 0
Fish (dried)	per cwt.	0 1 0
" (pickled)	per barrel	0 2 0
Herrings (smoked)	per box	0 0 3
Horses	each	1 0 0
Flour (wheat)	per barrel	0 5 0
Flour (other than wheat)	"	0 2 0
Geneva	per gallon	0 2 0
Iron bars	per cwt.	0 1 6
" hoops	"	0 1 6
" pots	"	0 2 0
Lard	"	0 5 0
Nails	"	0 2 6
Pitch and tar	"	0 1 0
Rum	per gallon	0 1 0
Sausages, tongues, and other meats, dried, salted, or cured	per cwt.	0 8 0
Soap	"	0 2 6
Slates or tiles	per 1,000	0 6 0
Sugar, refined	per cwt.	0 10 0
" crushed	"	0 8 3
" muscovado	"	0 6 0
Tea	per lb.	0 0 3
Tobacco	"	0 0 1½
Whiskey and other spirits	per gallon	0 2 0
Wine	"	0 1 6
Wood, viz.:		
Masts and spars in the average diameter	per inch	0 0 2
Pitch pine	per 1,000	0 7 6
White pine	"	0 5 0
Shooks	each	0 1 0
Shingles, Cypress	per 1,000	0 2 0
" Boston on Tync	"	0 1 0
Staves and heading	"	0 5 0

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Upon all other goods, wares, or merchandise there is levied a duty of 4*l.* upon every 100*l.* of the value.

Goods the produce of the Western Coast of Africa are exempt from the payment of any import duties.

The ordinance here referred to did not come into operation until the year 1854. The following statement of the sums realised under the head of import duties may be useful, as serving to compare the two years which preceded the introduction of the ordinance just named, when another tariff was in operation, with the three years which have succeeded, and the result shows that with a more varied distribution, by which the specific duties have been spread over a wider surface, the revenue has experienced but little change:—

				£	s.	d.
1852	-	-	-	12,830	19	2
1853	-	-	-	14,720	10	10
1854	-	-	-	13,830	13	4
1855	-	-	-	11,020	10	5
1856	-	-	-	13,308	10	9

By an ordinance which passed the Board of the Governor and Council on the 16th January 1856 the indulgence of three months was granted for the payment of duties on goods imported when such duty should exceed the sum of 20*l.*, the same to be secured by bond; and hence there will be found under the head of "Customs" in the Blue Book a large amount as receipt from bonds which is only another name for import duties on which the payments were deferred, and they are classed as import duties in the foregoing statement.

#### *Tonnage Dues.*

These are levied under the ordinance of 1853 that imposed the import duties, and increased the rate on shipping from 9*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per ton, which the legislature of the day did not think would act adversely on the trade of the colony, because it was in conformity with the rate charged in most of the colonial dependencies of the kingdom, and especially in the West India colonies, to which places it was ascertained that without any difference in the wages of seamen the rates of freight were the same as to this coast.

The policy of my government has been to attract as much as possible trade to the shores of this colony, without impairing its revenue, and hence the ordinance of the 1st of September 1856, to "Amend the laws with regard to the collection of tonnage and other dues on ships and vessels," by which ships are permitted to remain four days in the harbour of Freetown without incurring any expense for tonnage or other dues. Many vessels come hither for the purpose of seeking a market for the wares and merchandise which they have on board, and if, by reason of an abundant supply, there does not exist any demand for the goods with which they are laden, they are at liberty to depart free of expense.

A great many of these vessels find trade, and having so done, the difference of 9*d.* per ton on the ship's burden is of little consequence, in comparison with the freight received, the rate of which yields to each vessel from 3*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.* per ton.

The following is a statement of tonnage dues collected for the last five years:—

				£	s.	d.
1852	-	-	-	679	10	9
1853	-	-	-	755	13	3
1854	-	-	-	1,245	8	3
1855	-	-	-	1,920	9	0
1856	-	-	-	1,734	3	0

I have perceived with much satisfaction that several vessels laden with African produce not liable to duty have come to entry at this port, for the purpose of discharging their cargoes, and placing them under the care of resident merchants, who enjoy the protection of the Local Government while within its jurisdiction, and this done, the vessel proceeds elsewhere, the goods remaining in the custody and under the control of the merchant, who exports or otherwise disposes of them, as may be convenient; and hence it will be seen

that, in the year 1855, when there was a falling off in the general revenue on imports, the tonnage money did not diminish, owing in a great measure to a part of the revenue being derived from ships independently of their cargoes.

*Light Dues.*

This impost of three pence per ton on ships entering the port has yielded a steady return for five years as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
1852	-	-	219 18 3
1853	-	-	379 18 0
1854	-	-	311 10 9
1855	-	-	355 4 9
1856	-	-	318 2 0

*Revenue and Expenditure.*

The revenue of this colony is drawn from the following sources, viz. :

Customs.  
Land sales.  
Licences.  
Rents of factories and houses.  
Taxes.  
Fines, forfeitures, and fees of court.  
Fees of office.  
Sale of Government property.  
Reimbursement in aid of Government expenses.  
Miscellaneous receipts.  
Hospital stoppages. And  
The Parliamentary grant.

These form each a separate and distinct head of account, with various subdivisions; and in stating the revenue for the year 1856 I shall confine myself to the general heads, without specifying those into which they are subdivided. It may be sufficient here to remark, that each item of revenue referred to in this report is assignable to one of the foregoing heads.

The following is a summary of the receipts in the colonial treasury from all sources during the past year :—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance on hand 1st January	-	-	—	1,963	9	8½
Received from local sources, as follows :						
Customs	-	15,472	16 5			
Land sales	-	227	9 6			
Licences	-	2,265	10 0			
Rents of factories, &c.	-	801	10 4			
Taxes	-	3,254	12 8½			
Fines, forfeitures, and fees of court	-	491	13 5			
Fees of office	-	3	16 0			
Sale of Government property	-	384	13 9½			
Reimbursement in aid of Government expenses	-	276	7 3½			
Miscellaneous receipts	-	180	11 7½			
Hospital stoppages	-	1,133	16 8			
Harbour master (afterwards transferred to Customs)	-	58	5 0			
				24,551	2	9
From Parliamentary grant	-	-	-	1,866	13	4
Total	-	-	-	£28,381	5	9½

Against the foregoing receipts I shall now proceed to set down the expenditure for the same period, observing the same rule with respect to the general heads of account as I have done in noting the revenue.

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		Expenditure.					
		£ s. d.			£ s. d.		
Paid from Parliamentary grant	-	-	-	-	1,866	13	4
Paid from local funds, as follows:							
Fixed salaries	-	-	13,499	1	5		
Provisional and temporary	-	-	267	12	6		
Allowances	-	-	444	18	10		
Contingencies	-	-	406	2	6		
Pensions, &c.	-	-	148	14	0		
Administration of justice, expenses of establishment	-	-	154	7	5		
Charitable allowances	-	-	150	0	0		
Hospital, expenses of establishment	-	-	1,197	7	4½		
Police and gaols, expenses of establishment	-	-	1,167	5	8½		
Rents	-	-	16	13	4		
Works and buildings	-	-	3,758	0	7½		
Roads, streets, and bridges	-	-	620	19	4		
Miscellaneous services	-	-	581	10	6		
Unestimated account	-	-	46	12	0		
Aborigines	-	-	888	2	4		
Drawbacks and refund of duties	-	-	11	12	11½		
Remittances to agent-general	-	-	1,772	18	4		
Special service	-	-	402	18	1½		
					25,534	17	3½
Total					£27,401	10	7½

If the balance on the 1st January 1856 is separated from the foregoing, it will stand thus:—

		Revenue.					
		£ s. d.					
From Parliamentary grant	-	-	1,866	13	4		
From local sources	-	-	24,551	2	9		
Total					£26,417	16	1

		Expenditure.					
		£ s. d.					
Chargeable to Parliamentary grant	-	-	1,866	13	4		
All other expenditure	-	-	25,534	17	3		
Total					£27,401	10	7

The actual expenditure would, according to this statement, appear in excess of the actual receipts for the year, 983*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*, which may be accounted for from the fact of there being a large expenditure on works and buildings commenced in the year 1855, which it was absolutely necessary should be completed in the year 1856, and charged for in the accounts of the latter year.

I am quite aware of the necessity of keeping the expenditure on works and buildings within the amount which may be available from the revenue of each year, but it could not well be avoided in this instance.

In inserting under general heads the receipts and disbursements, so as to exhibit distinctly and separately the sources from whence the receipts have been derived on the one hand, and on the other the total expense incurred by each department of the Government, two items will appear in the abstract in the Blue Book of Revenue and Expenditure, and in the comparative yearly statements, which items, although regularly introduced in the quarterly statements transmitted to the Secretary of State, and in the colonial accounts rendered to Her Majesty's Commissioners of Audit, do not properly belong to this place. These are the receipt and repayment of deposits, and the expenditure on account of the liberated African department defrayed by the commissariat.

By an ordinance of the colony, intituled "An ordinance to provide for the "protection and administration of unrepresented estates," the receiver is required to lodge all his collections in the colonial treasury; and the colonial treasurer is, by the instructions of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury directed to governors of colonies, and regulating the mode of keeping and rendering the accounts of colonial receipt and expenditure, required to include in his accounts all payments made to him by administrators of estates, courts of law, or in any other manner by way of deposits. The consequence is, that all such sums appear as revenue in the quarterly and annual accounts rendered.

	£	s.	d.
The deposits during the past year have reached the sum of -	2,803	19	6
The receipts on account of the liberated African department, by the commissariat - - - - -	6,379	4	3
	9,183	3	9
To which, if there be added the amount of revenue, as shown before - - - - -	26,417	16	1
gives - - - - -	35,600	19	10
agreeing with the gross amount of revenue as shown in the Blue Book Return under the separately specified heads.			

	£	s.	d.
The repayment of deposits during the year has been - -	676	6	0
The expenditure on account of the liberated Africans, by the commissariat - - - - -	6,379	4	3
	7,055	10	3
To which, if there be added the amount of expenditure as already shown - - - - -	27,401	10	7
gives - - - - -	34,457	0	10
agreeing with the gross amount of expenditure as shown in the Blue Book Return under separately specified heads.			

#### Public Works.

The public buildings of the colony are of considerable magnitude and importance, and require much attention to keep them in a good condition. They have recently undergone very extensive repairs, together with some alterations and improvements. They comprise,—

1. Government House, Fort Thornton, transferred by the Ordnance department in August 1836, for the purpose of being converted into a residence for the Governor of the colony. It has ever since been kept in repair at the expense of the colonial Government. In 1853 it received the addition of a new wing.

2. The colonial secretary's office, the offices of the clerk of the crown, the registrar general, the sheriff, the postmaster, the house and land tax commissioners, and the residence of the colonial secretary, are all comprised in one range of buildings.

3. The gaol and house of correction, including the court hall, are under one roof; the court hall being in the upper story. Considerable sums have lately been expended in draining the gaol-yard; in the erection of solitary cells, detached from the prison; and otherwise improving the interior of the main building. There is also a hospital within the prison yard, for the reception of the sick prisoners.

4. The custom-house and police offices are in a spacious building under one roof; but they are divided by a partition running across the upper flight of rooms, and completely separating the two establishments. The ground floor of this building is under rent to a merchant of this colony, who uses it for a bonding warehouse, paying the Government a rental of 300*l.* per annum.

5. The colonial hospitals are situated in Freetown and the village of Kissy; the one in the latter place is used as a receptacle for patients suffering from the small-pox. Very extensive alterations and improvements have been made,

in order to adapt the liberated African buildings in Freetown, transferred by the Imperial Government to the colony for this purpose, into a colonial hospital. In return, the Colonial Government gave up apartments at Kissy for the accommodation of newly-arrived Africans captured in slave ships.

6. The building appropriated to the mixed commission courts is the property of the Local Government, for which a rent of 110*l.* per annum is paid to the colony, exclusive of the upper story, in which the Governor and Council hold their sittings.

7. The engineer's office and workshop are well adapted for the purpose to which they have hitherto been set apart. At present, however, but little use is made of them, in consequence of a remodelling of the arrangements for superintending the public works generally, it being thought desirable to discontinue, as far as possible, the practice of purchasing stores and materials, and executing the works by means of mechanics and labourers employed at daily wages under a colonial surveyor or engineer, and to adopt the principle of executing work by contract. I cannot do better than transcribe in this place the very appropriate remarks of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury on this subject, in a minute dated 22d January 1847, in which their lordships observed, that "besides the tendency which the system of Government executing its own works has to the maintaining of expensive and sometimes redundant establishments, it is obvious that a large stock of stores and materials cannot be kept up without considerable loss from wastage and deterioration. In addition to which should be considered the labour and difficulty of establishing an efficient check and control upon the issue and consumption of the stores, and upon the accounts of their purchase and appropriation."

8. The cathedral and parish church of St. George must also be noticed amongst the public buildings, the expense of its erection and repairs having been defrayed out of the local revenues.

9. To the parochial schoolroom, which was in a very dilapidated condition, has been added a commodious building, set apart for the education of boys under the direction of the colonial chaplain. It also serves for the performance of divine service two nights in each week. The old schoolroom has been repaired for the reception of female scholars, who, since the opening on the 5th January last, have regularly received instruction therein under a schoolmistress and assistant, superintended by the colonial chaplains.

10. The lighthouse at Cape Sierra Leone, with apartments for the residence of the officers, and accommodation for convalescents visiting that airy locality, is an establishment of much value and importance.

11. The Freetown markets consist of an extensive shed, with an enclosed space and stalls, a fish market, and a slaughter-house. The whole is farmed out at a rental of 350*l.* per annum.

12. The tank at King Jimmy's Fountain is erected of stone with a wooden covering. It is well supplied with pipes, and from thence the whole population of Freetown, as well as the ships of Her Majesty's navy and merchantmen coming to this place, are supplied with most excellent water.

13. District buildings. These comprise the manager's house, gaol, and market at Waterloo; a commodious and costly market house lately erected at Wilberforce; the manager's residence at Kent; and a spacious building on one of the Banana islands to which the officers of Her Majesty's navy frequently resort.

14. Freetown Wharf. This establishment stands first amongst the public works of the colony, not only as regards its importance to the mercantile interests of the community, but on account of its usefulness to the ships of Her Majesty's navy resorting here. A new and more extensive one has long been required. The experimental addition which has been constructed on a small scale has succeeded well. Considerable sums of money have from time to time been expended in keeping the wharf in repair. The amount, however, it amply repaid by a revenue which is derived therefrom through the customs, a statement of which for the last five years is as follows:

	£	s.	d.
1852	-	-	680 6 3
1853	-	-	831 7 6
1854	-	-	738 5 0
1855	-	-	743 13 9
1856	-	-	944 3 6



Several bridges have been built in Freetown, and culverts and drains supplied in places where they were very much needed. SIERRA LEONE

### *Legislation.*

The following is a list of the ordinances which have passed the Board of the Governor and Council during the past year.

- "An ordinance to make provision for the employment of a superintendent at the Isles de Loss."
- "An ordinance to alter and amend an ordinance passed on the 7th day of December 1853, intituled 'An ordinance to improve the harbour of Sierra Leone, and to define the duties of the harbour master and pilots thereof.'"
- "An ordinance to empower the assistant police magistrate to perform all acts that may be lawfully done by the police magistrate."
- "An ordinance to amend the laws in force respecting the warehousing of goods, and the payment of duties on goods entered for home consumption."
- "An ordinance for the naturalization of Charles Hazleborg in the colony of Sierra Leone."
- "An ordinance to amend the laws in force for regulating the duties of the harbour master and pilots in the colony of Sierra Leone."
- "An ordinance to establish a docket of fees for the remuneration of the superintendent of the survey and admeasurement of ships in the colony of Sierra Leone."
- "An ordinance to repeal an Act to revive and legalise the market dues, and all other Acts relating thereto, and to make other provisions in lieu thereof."
- "An ordinance to provide for the civil list of the colony for the year 1857."
- "An ordinance for transferring to one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State the powers and estates within the colony of Sierra Leone in Africa heretofore vested in the principal officers of the Ordnance."
- "An ordinance to amend the laws with regard to the collection of tonnage and other dues on ships and vessels."
- "An ordinance to make provision for the employment of a second landing waiter in the customs department."
- "An ordinance to repeal the 4th and 8th clauses of an ordinance, intituled 'An ordinance to amend the laws relating to the sale of spirituous liquors, and to substitute other provisions in lieu thereof.'"
- "An ordinance to consolidate and amend the several ordinances relating to the militia of this colony, and to provide for the better organization of the same."

### *Education.*

The schools established throughout the colony under the care of the clergy of the Church of England and ministers of other denominations are well conducted. The attention of the Government has recently been more fully drawn to this subject. The law requiring that all alien children of African parents should be sent to some school renders it imperative on the Government to supply the lack of voluntary effort in providing sufficient accommodation for children that must be sent to receive instruction. There has consequently been an increase, not only of room for educational purposes, but also in the staff of salaried teachers. A grant was likewise made to the Wesleyan Methodists in the early part of this year, amounting to two hundred pounds, for the purpose of aiding them in their educational projects.

The number of scholars in the Freetown boys' school supported by Government was 290 at the close of last year; but it has so far increased that the number is now 360.

The number of girls in the Government school, established this year only, is 275.

The total number of children receiving instruction throughout the colony was 7,903 on the 31st December last. The Imperial Government assists, by the payment of six teachers for instructing liberated African children throughout the colony, numbered amongst the various bodies of Christians, the sum of seventy-two pounds per annum.

*Imports and Exports.*

The imports during the past year reached the large amount of one hundred and fifty-three thousand one hundred and four pounds, and were as follows :

	£
From Great Britain - - - -	123,000
" British Colonies - - - -	482
" United States of America - -	15,926
" France - - - -	8,528
" Teneriff - - - -	135
" Madeira - - - -	248
" Spain - - - -	38
" other parts of the Western Coast of Africa	4,747
	<hr/> 153,104

The exports for the same period amounted to one hundred and eighty thousand three hundred and eighty-four pounds, and were as follows :

	£
To Great Britain - - - -	37,208
" British Colonies - - - -	6,254
" United States of America - -	52,128
" France - - - -	57,757
" Teneriff - - - -	2
" Madeira - - - -	11
" other parts of the Western Coast of Africa	27,024
	<hr/> 180,384

*Agriculture.*

The nature of the soil of the colony is such as to preclude all hope of its ever becoming an agricultural country. Ginger and arrowroot are produced in small quantities; edibles, such as yams, sweet potatoes, and other esculents, are also raised, but not in sufficient quantities for the consumption of the population; but the soil in some of the adjacent countries is rich, and amply productive, and a constant supply of African produce is kept up through the medium of boats and canoes. The natives receive merchandise in exchange, and by this means become to a considerable extent the consumers of our imports. The exports of Sierra Leone are not drawn from the soil of the colony, but from the produce of native countries brought here and exchanged for merchandise; it ought not therefore to be any matter of surprise that the tendency of the inhabitants generally is to engage in trade.

*Grants of Land.*

The amount realized from grants of land during the past year has been 195*l.*, and a much greater sum might have been obtained were it not considered necessary to proceed with caution, in view of the measures which were about to be adopted in order more clearly to ascertain the relative rights between the Crown and nominal grantees of land. An increasing desire to purchase land is manifesting itself, and I have no doubt that an eager competition will shortly be created, and liberal prices obtained for lots of land over which the Crown has hitherto abstained from asserting its right. I can see no reason for adhering to the off-set price, or nominal value of five pounds, which has hitherto been put on each lot of land; and therefore as soon as the operation of the ordinance for the "settlement of claims to grants of land," and the registration ordinance. (both of which passed the legislature of the colony in February of the present year,) will enable me to do so I shall, with the sanction of Her Majesty's Government, consider the expediency of throwing the unoccupied land of the Crown open to the demand that may be created for the same, at such prices as can be obtained.

*Concluding Observations.*

I have reason to believe that the colony is in a state of progress; and when the heterogeneous mass of which the population is composed is taken into account, I am of opinion that much has been done; and with just and equitable

laws, administered in a spirit of charity as well as firmness, together with an unrestricted commerce, we may confidently hope for greater things. It shall be my earnest endeavour to promote the physical, moral, and intellectual advancement of its people, and the commercial interests of the colony.

A taste for the higher refinements of civilized life and for improved buildings is discernible. The unsubstantial structures of wattle and thatch are fast giving place to wooden ones, covered with slates or shingles; and in many cases the dwellings of the inhabitants are erected of substantial stone, evincing the increasing prosperity of the native residents.

I annex a letter addressed by Mr. Heddle, the first merchant here, to Doctor Baikie, superintendent of the present "Niger" expedition, feeling satisfied it will be read with much interest, containing, as it does, statistical information relative to an article of African export becoming daily of more consequence in the European markets, and pointing out its bearing on the physical condition and social comforts of the natives inhabiting the heights of Benin and Biafra, the palm country proper.

Mr. Heddle's communication may also prove acceptable to the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade.

STEPHEN J. HILL,  
Governor.

Enclosure in No. 25.

Encl. in No. 25.

MY DEAR SIR,

Sierra Leone, May 8, 1857.

In our conversation of yesterday, I observed to you that it appeared singular to me, that among all the reasons urged on our Government to move it to renewed exertions to open the Niger to British enterprise, that which I hold to be the strongest and most unanswerable seems entirely to have escaped the attention of the promoters of that great commercial measure: I allude to the vast extension which the trade in the rivers emptying themselves into the heights of Biafra and Benin is about to take, and that almost immediately, from the kernel of the palm-nut becoming an article of export to Europe.

You are aware that the palm oil now exported is entirely made from the sarcocarp, or the fibrous pellicle that surrounds the nut, and that the kernels, with the exception of an insignificant quantity used for the manufacture of oil for domestic use, are thrown away.

The better to convince you of the value of these kernels, of the rapidity of the growth of the trade in them in our immediate neighbourhood, and of its importance, I enclose two returns; the first shows the quantity of kernels exported from this place from 1850 to 1856, inclusive; the other, that of the palm oil exported during the same period. In dealing with these returns, there are two things to be kept in view: the first is, that the return of kernels does not show the whole quantity exported from this place and its neighbourhood; a somewhat close approximation to this is, however, necessary, to arrive at the conclusion I have in view. As vessels loading in the neighbouring rivers do not take a clearance from our custom-house, many cargoes go annually direct to France, which consequently do not figure in our customs return. From other sources of information I am enabled, however, to estimate that quantity, at all events for each of the last two years, at about 60,000 bushels; this would then raise the whole quantity exported from Sierra Leone and those places in commercial dependency on it to 150,000 bushels. On the other hand, the return of palm oil exported shows a great excess over what is actually procured and made in the adjacent rivers, that is, in the same localities as those from which we obtain the 150,000 bushels of kernels, owing to the circumstance, that since our trade with Lagos has been opened several hundred tons are brought from there annually by our native traders, which when exported to Europe figure in our customs return; some oil also finds its way here from Liberin and other places to the south. Deducting these quantities from the return, I think what is actually made in our neighbourhood will be reduced to from 750 to 800 tons. I shall assume the first to be the correct quantity, and that 150,000 bushels is a fair relative proportion of kernels obtained in the manufacture of 750 tons of palm oil. On reference to the customs return of kernels exported you will perceive that the trade only dates from 1850. In that year only 1,096 bushels were exported. In 1852, two years after, the exports had reached 46,727 bushels, and in 1856, 90,282 bushels. To all these years there is of course to be added the quantity shipped direct from our rivers to France.

Now, if among such a population, and in a country that cannot be considered as native to the palm tree, this trade has in a few years made such rapid strides, this habit of industry has gained so much on the people, that during the past year 150,000 bushels of kernels were collected and brought to market, to procure which at least 350,000 bushels of palm nuts must have been boiled and stripped of the sarcocarp by the human hand, and subsequently broken, and the kernels separated from the shell, and then carried to a market many miles distant, thus giving, it must be admitted, a

## SIERRA LEONE.

most emphatic denial to the often-repeated assertion that the negro will not labour except on compulsion, what results are we entitled to expect whenever this trade should be generally introduced amongst the vast and industrious populations that occupy the districts proper to the palm tree?

The quantity of palm oil imported into England from the West Coast of Africa in 1856 was estimated at 45,000 tons. To this we have to add the very considerable quantity exported to the United States, France, Hambourg, and other continental ports, and which cannot be estimated at less than 5,000 tons; thus making the whole quantity exported from the West Coast of Africa 50,000 tons. Admitting then the 150,000 bushels of kernels obtained in the neighbourhood of Sierra Leone to be the fair relative proportion of the 750 tons of palm oil procured from the same localities, it follows that the 50,000 tons of oil should give 10,000,000 bushels of kernels, equal to 223,000 tons, worth, at the high price obtained for them in France in 1856, 89,200,000 francs;—we ought to arrive at nearly the same results in England.

It has been ascertained that the average yield of oil from these kernels is 30 per cent.; the 223,000 tons should consequently give 67,000 tons of oil, worth at the present price of cocoa nut oil, which it closely resembles in all its properties, 3,350,000*l*.

If we add to this the value of the cake, 112,000 tons, at the very low value of 4*l*. per ton, we should obtain 448,000*l*., making the whole gross value 3,790,000*l*.. The whole quantity of tallow exported from Russia in 1856 is estimated at 2,574,121 pounds, or 45,916 tons, which at the present price of 55*l*. per ton would give 2,528,130*l*.. It follows, then, that the kernels now thrown away in the manufacture of the 50,000 tons of palm oil exported from Africa are worth 1,216,870*l*., more than all the tallow exported from Russia in 1856. In estimating the value of this trade to Great Britain, there is to be taken into consideration a fact of the utmost importance, and which will render it more valuable whenever it is established than any other she is now engaged in. It is, that our trade with Africa is entirely a barter trade; that whilst we pay Russia almost entirely hard cash for her tallow, the whole value of these kernels will be paid for in British manufactures and colonial produce; whilst the transport of 223,000 tons of produce from Africa to England will give additional employment to that extent to her seamen and shipping; and this question assumes still greater importance when taken from another point of view; that is, when we consider the effect this new industry must have in the course of a few years on the habits and well-being of the African. I believe that the degraded position he now occupies in the scale of humanity proceeds rather from the want of all occupation in early life than from any cause innate in himself. The manufacture of palm oil and the collecting of such other produce as they can find a ready market for with the European trader, limited as it is by their limited knowledge of our requirements, can occupy but a small portion of the population? Whilst the growth of their own food, in a country with a tropical sun and six months of tropical rain, affords employment only to few women in each village, and occupies but a few weeks in the year, the rest of the population grow up in that unvaried idleness which I believe is the one great cause of their poverty and of their crimes, and of those frightful diseases that prostrate the physical and mental energies of a large proportion of them. Whenever this population can be brought to occupy itself with the kernels of the palm nut, this state of things will immediately change; every member of every family above the age of three years will not only have employment, but remunerative employment, during every hour of every day in the year. Thus the habit of labour will be created, and will bring with it other habits and new wants, and simultaneously with these wants the means of ministering to them. It is difficult to estimate the immense change which this must effect in the moral and physical condition of the native. Clothe him in a manner suited to his humid climate, give him a more roomy and better ventilated hut, feed him on wholesome food, and in a few years those diseases which originate in filth, in damp, and bad food will disappear.

These are no idle speculations; they are capable of proof, and the proof lies at our very door. Let any one who knew the Mellacourai and other rivers in our vicinity twenty years ago visit them to-day, and then let him testify to the almost miraculous change that has taken place in the manners and habits of the people, in their intelligence, in short in their entire physique and morale. This change dates entirely from the time the culture of the ground nuts was introduced among them. Material causes produce the same effects on the African in his country as on the Englishman in his; the only difference will be in the rapidity with which effect will follow cause. The change is slower with the savage, but not less certain.

You may say that this trade has yet to be created. I grant it; but I have shown you the facility of its creation, and the rapidity of its growth, amongst a people placed under the greatest possible disadvantages. The readiness with which the natives have betaken themselves to this new occupation has been fully illustrated in our neighbourhood. No portion of Africa, except its deserts, is more thinly peopled. The places from which we procure these kernels have until the last two years been annually decimated, nay, almost swept of their inhabitants, by the razzias of the slave dealer, and their own cruel superstitions.

The natives are, moreover, physically and mentally inferior to the tribes south of Cape Palmas; but in spite of all this the trade has become what it is in the short space of four

years. Now I have a right from this to assume that its growth will be still more rapid amongst those so much more favourably situated. If we wanted additional evidence of this, we have only to look at the marvellous progress of our present palm oil trade. Its source dates so far back as the present century. In 1808 the quantity imported into England was only 200 tons; in 1851 it had reached 50,000 tons; and it is only during the last five years of that period that the steam vessel has come to the aid of African commerce. What, then, are we entitled to expect in the next twenty years, when the distance between the oil-growing countries in Africa and England shall have by steam-power been reduced by at least two thirds, and when steam shall ply, which it is about to do, on that artery of Africa, the Niger. Indeed no quarter of the world affords such natural facilities for such a trade. The whole country is a network of natural canalization; it commences at Cape St. Paul, and extends to the Bonny, running parallel to the coast in its whole length, and extending hundreds of miles into the interior in every direction. The 40,000,000 which Russia would astutely borrow from Europe for the formation of her railways would, if expended on her territory, produce no such facilities for cheap transport as nature has gratuitously bestowed on this part of Africa.

I shall now leave these facts in your hands. Whilst here you will have an opportunity of testing their accuracy, and of correcting any error into which, in my deductions from these facts, I may have fallen, for I do not pretend to scientific precision. I can only say that I have as far as possible endeavoured to avoid all exaggeration.

If after examining them you are convinced that I have arrived legitimately and fairly at the conclusion I aim at,—that a trade perfectly practicable and of great importance is within our reach,—you will, I have no doubt, as your present mission to Africa is so intimately connected with its future commerce with your country, do all in your power to direct to it, not only the attention of your government, but of those of your friends in England who have taken so great an interest in your present undertaking. They will, I am confident, whether philanthropists or practical men of business, do all in their power to hasten the development of a commerce of such vital importance to Africa and to England.

To Doctor Baikie, R.N.,  
&c. &c. &c.

I remain, &c.  
(Signed) C. HEDDLE.

## No. 1.

STATEMENT of Palm Oil exported from the Colony of Sierra Leone during the years specified below—

Years.	Gallons.
1850 - - -	285,032
1851 - - -	212,577
1852 - - -	307,988
1853 - - -	181,438
1854 - - -	304,406
1855 - - -	364,414
1856 - - -	463,130
Total -	<u>2,118,595</u>

Custom House, Sierra Leone,  
18th February 1857.

## No. 2.

Port of Freetown, Sierra Leone.

RETURN showing the Quantity of Palm Nut Kernels exported from the Colony, as follows, viz:

Years.	Bushels.
1850 - - -	4,096
1851 - - -	2,925
1852 - - -	46,727
1853 - - -	29,699
1854 - - -	25,399½
1855 - - -	65,388
1856 - - -	90,282
Total -	<u>264,516½</u>

Customs, Sierra Leone,  
30th January 1857.

GAMBIA.

## GAMBIA.

No. 26.

No. 26.

COPY of a DESPATCH from GOVERNOR O'CONNOR to the Right Honourable  
H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 31.)

Government House,  
Bathurst, Gambia, July 27, 1857.

SIR,

(Received, September 11, 1857.)

I HAVE the honour to forward the "Blue Book" of this colony for the year  
1856.

*Revenue.*

2. My talented and experienced predecessor, Governor MacDonnell, well versed in the resources and internal economy of Gambia, proved, in his comprehensive report on the "Blue Book" for 1851,—

3. That the colonial revenue, amounting to 4,540*l.* in 1840, advanced to 8,484*l.* in 1851, "or in eleven years had nearly doubled itself."

4. It is with more than ordinary satisfaction I am able to state, that the revenue has gradually progressed since I assumed this government in 1852 from 8,756*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.* to 12,304*l.* 3*s.*, or nearly one half more in five years, and I venture to predict it will not retrograde; on the contrary, in 11 years, I mean in 1863, a revenue of considerable amount may be fairly and rationally calculated on.

TABLE No. 1.

Years.	Revenue.			Imports.	Exports.	No. of Vessels entering.	Tonnage in British Vessels.	Tonnage in Foreign Vessels.	Total Tonnage.	Seamen.	Years.
	£	s.	d.	£	£						
1852	8,756	4	5	110,174	217,856	258	5,307	23,967	29,274	2,342	1852
1853	11,244	14	5	105,896	185,825	240	11,482	21,618	33,100	2,680	1853
1854	9,737	16	8	124,047	173,882	231	9,140	19,480	28,620	2,394	1854
1855	10,515	5	6	126,454	215,804	211	5,695	26,924	32,619	2,452	1855
1856	12,304	3	0	108,852	176,577	221	14,397	17,541	31,938	2,495	1856
	52,558	4	0	575,423	969,944	1,161	46,021	109,530	155,551	12,303	

*Public Works.*

5. The expenditure on public works during the past year has been mainly confined to repairing the lower and upper piazzas of Government House, long in a dilapidated condition.

6. The public market continues to yield a very liberal rate of interest for the sum it originally cost, 2,700*l.*, the renting of the stalls reaching 550*l.* in the year 1856.

7. I would recommend provision be made for constructing a court-house, public offices for the colonial secretary, customs, and engineer;—

8. For purchasing the powder magazine, at present in the hands of a few individuals, and removing it from its improper and dangerous position to a safer and more desirable site.

9. A public wharf would greatly facilitate discharging and embarking cargoes, and produce a return, if not so great as the market, still commensurate to the capital expended.

10. Last, but assuredly not least, a church for the established religion has been long required.

11. Divine service is now performed by the colonial chaplain in an unconsecrated room, not capable of accommodating more than two hundred persons.

12. A small iron church, similar to the one at Belize, Honduras, or in the Port Royal Mountains, Jamaica, would prove most suitable for Gambia.

### *Retrospective Commerce.*

13. In Mungo Park's time, that famous epoch in the annals of Western Africa, and from which so many of its events date, the trade of the River Gambia was carried on by two or three vessels, and the annual exports were under 20,000*l*.

14. The colony steadily progressed until 1840, when the imports and exports advanced with rapid strides.

TABLE No. 2.

NUMBER OF VESSELS, Tonnage, Imports and Exports, from 1840 to 1855.

Year.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Imports.	Exports.	Year.
			£	£	
1840	255	14,009	105,441	124,587	1840
1845	241	21,132	119,187	154,801	1845
1851	239	25,491	107,011	186,404	1851
1855	211	32,619	126,454	215,803	1855
	946	93,251	458,093	681,595	

15. In 1840, 255 merchant vessels entered Gambia; their tonnage amounting to 14,009 tons; the imports, 105,441*l*; and the exports, 124,587*l*.

16. In 1845, 241 merchant vessels entered Gambia; their tonnage, 21,132 tons; the imports, 119,187*l*; and the exports, 154,801*l*.

17. In 1851, 239 merchant vessels entered Gambia; their tonnage, 25,491 tons; the imports, 107,011*l*; and the exports, 186,404*l*.

18. In 1855, 211 merchant vessels entered Gambia; their tonnage, 32,619 tons; the imports, 126,454*l*. 3*s*. 10*d*.; and the exports, 215,803*l*.

19. In comparing the imports and exports of Sierra Leone for 1855, it appears from the Blue Book the former amounts to 114,910*l*., and the latter to 170,547*l*.; there is, therefore, an excess in favour of Gambia of 11,544*l*. on imports, and of 45,256*l*. on exports in 1855.

20. This great increase in the exports may be fairly attributed to the ground nuts, an article in Gambia commerce of comparatively recent date.

21. In 1836 the value of ground nuts exported was only 838*l*., and in one year it sprung up to 8,053*l*.; in four years, that is in 1840, the exportation of ground nuts was 15,209*l*.; and in twelve years, 1852, ground nuts were exported to the value of 153,098*l*.

22. In 1855 the exportation of ground nuts was 149,713*l*. 13*s*., while the same exported from Sierra Leone amounted to only 27,617*l*., leaving an excess on ground nuts in favour of Gambia of 122,096*l*. The trifling decline from

## GAMBIA.

1852 is attributable to the war in Barra, the disturbances up the river, and the insurrection in Combo during some years to 1853, all harassing the natives, destroying large farms, and checking the trade.

23. The subsequent restoration of tranquillity in the river, Barra and Combo, the increased cultivation, and favourable season, raised the exportation of ground nuts during the half year ending 30th June 1857 to 9,424 tons, or 113,093*l.* 9*s.* for six months.

TABLE No. 3.

QUANTITIES of GROUND NUTS exported from the Port of Bathurst during the half year ended 30th June 1857.

France.	Great Britain.	United States.	Greece.	British West Indies.	Total.
Tons cwt. qrs. lbs.	Tons cwt. qrs. lbs.	Tons cwt. qrs. lbs.	Tons cwt. qrs. lbs.	Tons cwt. qrs. lbs.	Tons cwt. qrs. lbs.
7,648 10 2 24	182 10 0 0	1,131 10 2 0	118 8 3 0	43 8 3 0	9,424 8 2 24

24. It is a singular fact, and well worthy of observation, that four principal articles of exportation from Gambia have sunk into insignificance in a brief space of time.

TABLE No. 4.

—	1836.	1837.	1838.	1839.	1840.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Gold     "     "	5,010	1,712	1,218	1,339	1,289	10,568
Gum       "     "	20,809	15,077	21,755	25,144	1,636	84,421
Ivory     "     "	7,065	7,278	4,083	5,386	4,759	28,561
Teak Wood     "	12,355	12,374	4,974	4,522	5,176	39,401
Total     "     £	45,229	36,441	32,030	36,391	12,860	162,951

In five years the exportation of gold dwindled from 5,010*l.* to 1,289*l.*; gum, from 20,809*l.* to 1,636*l.*; ivory, from 7,065*l.* to 4,759*l.*; teak wood, from 12,355*l.* to 5,176*l.*

25. Pass we over ten years, and in 1851 the gold exported from Gambia was nil, gum 1,361*l.*, ivory 846*l.*, and teak wood nil.

26. In five years more, 1856, the gold exported was 202*l.*, gum 212*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*, ivory 218*l.* 4*s.*, teak wood nil.

27. Thus four articles of exportation, yielding in 1836 45,229*l.*, in 1856 returned 632*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.*

28. In truth it demanded some singularly productive and profitable article of commerce to pull up the lee-way of such an unprecedented falling off, and this proved the "ground-nut" trade;—a trade that, as cultivation spreads, the circulation of articles for general consumption increases, commercial reciprocity is encouraged, and good faith preserved with the various tribes;—the monopoly, hitherto enjoyed by a few large houses, terminates, and the profits of the trade no longer engrossed by them, but subdivided amongst a greater number of humble, industrious, persevering natives;—a trade, I say,



that will render Her Majesty's settlements in the River Gambia progressive, prosperous, and profitable, and raise them to their legitimate position among the first colonies on the western coast of Africa.

29. By means of that great artery the noble river, navigable for vessels of 300 tons 300 miles from its mouth, presenting a fair water road for hundreds of miles into the interior, Gambia may be the means of promoting civilization and peace among the nations and tribes, not only along and adjacent to its banks, but even induce the wandering children of the desert, the Fouta-Foulahs, Fouta-Toros, Tukulos, and Serruhoolies to seek the society, learn the fashions, acquire the wants, and emulate the industry of the white men.

30. Agriculture and commerce are the soundest and safest agents to develop the resources of this portion of Africa, to open a more general and attainable market for our home manufactures, and immeasurably increase our importations, exportations, and colonial revenue.

#### *Oyster Creek Ferry.*

31. While absent in England for the recovery of my health, the Acting Governor, Mr. Colonial Secretary Robertson, effected a vast improvement in the transit of the "Oyster Creek," by purchasing a safe, commodious, and well-adapted boat or scow, worked by paddle-wheels. This affords every facility to the settlers at Cape Saint Mary and in British Combo, and to the numerous natives, the Iolas, the dealers in palm wine, to frequent Bathurst Market.

32. Having previously obtained the sanction of the Home Government, and duly considered the matter, I abolished the toll of the Oyster Creek Ferry, which produced a paltry and uncertain increase to the revenue, and pressed very heavily on the poorer agricultural classes of the community. A man or woman, cultivating a patch of ground, might have a bundle or two of ground-nut grass, half a dozen fowls, baskets, bowls, calabashes, a bully of palm wine or oil, a few bushels of rice or corn, some vegetables or fruit, for sale; but being compelled to pay a toll of twopence coming and twopence returning over the creek, the little profit arising from the proceeds of their goods was almost swallowed up.

33. I have been much gratified by observing the increased number of men, women, and children, coming from the Cape and Combo in large parties, carrying various kinds of produce to Bathurst; and after the usual greeting, for the African is studiously civil to his Governor, I am bailed with a joyful exclamation, since "there is no copper to pay at the ferry."

#### *Combo.*

34. Having bappily proved successful in terminating the disastrous war between Demba-Sunko, king of Barra, and Ansumana Jaggi, the Surruhoolie chief, plundering and burning towns, and sweeping away produce, cattle, and even people, to exchange for guns and gunpowder with the adjacent tribes, I removed Ansumana and his most rebellious warriors to Fatatenda, 300 miles up the river, the nearest port en route to their country, and saved the lives of some 400 Surruhoolie followers who were at the king's mercy.

35. Long convinced that the territory ceded to the British in 1853 was totally useless if not brought under cultivation, and puzzled how to dispose of 400 hard-working but very hungry addition to my subjects, I made two expeditions through Combo, and located in detached parties the Surruhoolies, placing other tribes between them.

36. I am in expectation that if this experiment succeeds, and so far it promises to do so, if the Surruhoolies and other agricultural natives are encouraged, the 8,000 acres of arable land acquired in 1853 will not prove a mere useless extension of territory, but a fruitful district, yielding considerable quantities of ground nuts; and no part of the coast produces finer or heavier. Corn, grain, yams, vegetables, cotton (indigenous, was formerly cultivated and manufactured to a great extent on both banks of the river, but want of proper machinery for cleaning it has retarded its constituting a feature in our trade;—this valuable commodity might be raised in Combo to any extent) and indigo,

## GAMBIA.

hemp, fibrous plants, toullacouna (a bitter oil from a most prolific nut), the Benna seed, palm oil;—in fine a thrifty industrious population is alone required to render British Combo a priceless accession of territory to that “old sand-bank, Saint Mary’s Isle,” quaintly described as “barely perceptible above the level of the sea, the centre of the island being a swamp, and the houses in the upper part of the town inundated in the rainy season; here and there a patch of ground on which labour has been lavished, where some sickly vegetation seems to be doing violence to the poverty of the soil.”

*Albreda.*

37. On March the 7th, 1857, a convention was concluded in London between Her Britannic Majesty and the Emperor of the French, the Queen relinquishing the right of trade to the Bay and Fort of Portendic, River St. John, the Emperor ceding the French factory or comptoir at Albreda, on the north bank of the River Gambia, with the rights thereof, to the British.

38. Thus a long pending vexatious question, fertile in material for correspondence, a bone of jealousy to the commercial communities of both nations in Gambia, a pretext and covert opening for contraband traffic, and a thorn in the sides of the British settlers, was removed.

32. The French have free access to the river, but are confined to reside, that is, establish trading firms in Bathurst and Albreda, the latter where French subjects were then resident. French vessels to be subject to the same duties as British, and every article imported or exported in French vessels to pay the same duty as British.

40. By an ordinance enacted 30th December 1845, several duties were levied on all goods and merchandise imported into the River Gambia, transhipped or landed in any of the British settlements in the river, or taken up the same, save and except wares and merchandise landed from French vessels at the French factory of Albreda.

41. French vessels laden with any description of goods or merchandise had only to be reported at Bathurst, receive a pass from the collector of customs, proceed to Albreda, land their goods, and, as a matter of course, dispose of them to the best advantage.

42. The French trader, having no duties to pay, could undersell the British trader.

43. The French were stringently prohibited proceeding beyond Albreda; but to prevent canoes conveying merchandise up the river, or active agents trading with the natives, or transporting goods and wares, guns and gunpowder, tobacco and rum, across the country, was far easier to legislate than effectually enforce.

44. This became so manifest, that an ordinance was passed in July 1853, for the better regulation of the River Gambia, prohibiting foreign vessels or canoes to navigate the river, except French vessels to and from Albreda and Bathurst.

45. Vessels, boats, or canoes, British or foreign, conveying goods and merchandise, produce or property, not British-owned, were liable to a penalty of 100*l.* and seizure. The sum of 200*l.* a year was placed at the disposal of the collector of customs, Bathurst, for the prevention of smuggling.

46. But with every disposition on the part of the executive to carry out effectually this ordinance, it proved a practical failure.

47. In November 1854, a small revenue cruiser with a river police were posted opposite to Albreda, made a few paltry seizures, fomented the hostile feelings between the British and French traders, sharpened the wits of smugglers, nearly embroiled us with the king of Barra and other chiefs, increased considerably the colonial expenditure, and eventually captain, crew, and cruiser became so utterly worthless that all were about to be withdrawn, when the treaty of March the 7th reached Bathurst.

*The Treaty.*

48. My own impression of the convention is, it will tend to spread our trade far more extensively and universally among the natives; it will put a stop to contraband traffic, for British and French pay duties alike; it will throw open

the river to legitimate competition; it will upset monopoly, and reduce considerably the prices of all articles for general consumption; it will save the necessity and expense of our merchants employing small vessels and petty traders, frittering away time and lavishing money collecting ground nuts and produce, obviate the delay in conveying cargoes to Bathurst, and transhipping them into the homeward-bound vessels.

49. The British merchant can charter a French vessel direct to any or every port, or the most distant factory in the river, dispose of his goods, and return with their proceeds to be despatched at once to the European market.

50. As to the undue advantage the French acquire by sending vessels beyond Albreda, this is a mere querulous cavil; the French can reside only at Bathurst or at Albreda under special provisions, and at no other station, "save such as" may hereafter be appointed by Her Britannic Majesty in Council."

51. Finally,—I speak on the authority of some of the leading, most influential, and largely engaged firms, men of long tried experience in African affairs, and thoroughly acquainted with its resources and commerce,—“The British do not fear the competition of the French in a fair field of commercial encounter.”

### Crime.

52. Considering the mixed itinerant material composing the population of this colony—natives of all tribes, colours, shades denominations,—protestants, Roman catholics, methodists, Mahomedans, pagans,—men entertaining very different opinions on almost every subject, especially as to the meaning of “*meum*” and “*tuum*,” it is only an act of common justice on my part to bear honourable testimony to the good and orderly conduct of the Bathurst inhabitants. The very small amount of crime, and how minor the offences are, will be seen by the following tables. (Nos. 5 & 6.)

53. The first exhibits the number of cases brought before the quarterly Supreme Court of Oyer and Terminer for the last five years.

TABLE No. 5.

Months.	1892.		1893.		1894.		1895.		1896.		1897.		Total.	
	Guilty.	Not Guilty.	Guilty.	Not Guilty.	Guilty.	Not Guilty.	Guilty.	Not Guilty.	Guilty.	Not Guilty.	Guilty.	Not Guilty.	Guilty.	Not Guilty.
March	-	-	8	5	1	1	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	-
April	-	-	2	-	-	-	3	2	6	5	-	-	-	-
July	-	-	6	4	9	1	-	-	5	1	4	3	-	-
August	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
November	-	10	2	17	8	9	4	-	8	3	-	-	-	-
December	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	10	2	33	17	19	6	22	8	19	9	7	5	110	47

54. The second, prepared by the Queen's advocate and magistrates of police, gives the number of cases tried in the police court for the last twelve months.

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TABLE No. 6.

DATE.	Assault.	Breach of Recruit- ment.	Disturbing the Public Peace.	False Weights.	Furious Bellig.	Infraction of Market Ordinances.	Intoxication and Neglect of Duty.	Nuisances.	Refusing to receive current Coin.	Removing Road from the Bench.	Rapes and Vagrancies.	Slaughter for Sale elsewhere than in the Public-house.	Stealing from Houses.	Swagging Fairs Wine.	Allowing Typing on Fences on Sunday.	Trespassing.	Total.
1856:																	
August	13	-	24	-	-	5	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	49
September	3	-	24	3	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	47
October	3	-	30	-	-	13	6	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	59
November	12	-	43	-	-	5	11	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
December	5	-	27	-	-	9	8	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	65
1857:																	
January	4	-	16	-	-	10	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	-	-	39
February	1	1	25	-	1	6	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37
March	3	1	15	-	1	6	11	3	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	45
April	1	1	32	-	1	6	6	3	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	54
May	5	1	67	8	1	4	5	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	84
June	2	6	49	-	2	4	6	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	69
July	6	-	35	1	-	3	2	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	51
	55	7	335	2	8	77	56	29	1	2	10	1	22	1	1	1	652

*General Observations.*

55. There is a rapidly rising consistent improvement in the industry, domestic relations, morality, and general bearing of the native merchants, traders, artificers, and commonalty of Gambia.

56. Not a few enterprising, energetic, industrious men are struggling with the barriers which have hitherto restrained them, and are pressing boldly onwards towards independence;—men, humble, respectable, thrifty,—I will add, loyal;—men who don't deserve to be thrust into the back ground, or kept blindly in the dark, as incompetent to understand and unworthy to be made acquainted with the leading, may the every day affairs of this colony;—

57. Men who pay their customs, duties, taxes, and have proved themselves zealous, able, and willing to come forward to defend and protect Gambia;—men who, kindly treated, judiciously encouraged, fairly and firmly governed, and freely admitted to their legitimate rights as British subjects, stand on equal ground, and are as worthy useful members of society as those of any other branch of this community.

58. The days have fortunately faded away, and the prejudices are almost buried in oblivion, when caste and colour stereotyped the condition and character of a British settler;—when,—no matter how honest and honourable in all his dealings, exemplary in the various relations of life, pains-taking, God-fearing,—the shade of his complexion, and not the sterling worth of his heart, or the strength of his capacity, constituted the criterion of his respectability, and marked the line of demarcation between him and his white brethren.

59. I am not nor have I ever been an advocate for imposing a high-pressure system upon a rising class of people, or for forcing them into a precocious state of civilization; but this I maintain, and perhaps some thirty years' experience of Africans and African character may plead as an apology for my offering so freely this opinion,—this I maintain,—the manly, liberal, independent declaration of the British merchants regarding the French, “we fear them not in a fair field of commercial encounter,” is most apposite to the native inhabitants of our colonies on the western coast of Africa. I embrace all three:—give them time, opportunity, and a “fair field,” and they will not flinch from “the encounter” with their white brethren in all the social qualifications constituting an honest man, a good citizen, and, perhaps, at no very distant period, in commercial competition.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) L. SMYTH O'CONNOR, Governor.

Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c.

&amp;c.

## GOLD COAST.

GOLD COAST.

No. 27.

No. 27.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Acting Governor CONNOR to the  
Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 18.)

Cape Coast Castle, March 2, 1857.

(Received May 14, 1857.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith in duplicate the Blue Book of this Government for the year 1856.

2. Previous Despatches of mine in the year will have led you to anticipate an increased expenditure, and of course the raising of the customs duties would induce the expectation of an increase in that branch of revenue.

3. The expenditure in last year and in the preceding one are as follows: 1855,—8,501*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.*; 1856,—10,771*l.* 14*s.* 6½*d.*; excess of 1856,—2,269*l.* 2*s.* 8½*d.* It will be observed, however, that the arrears of expenditure at the commencement of last year exceeded those of a year previously by the sum of 915*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.* We had then in 1856 two items of a peculiar and exceptional nature: compensation to natives injured in the January riot in Cape Coast, 291*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*, and expenses attending Major Ord's meetings with the chiefs, 410*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.* I include the former of these items because it swells the figures of expenditure, though the Government really had only to pay 3*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.* because of the fine on the occasion amounting to 288*l.*, and which appears in the Blue Book on the revenue side as an incidental receipt.

4. It will be observed further, by referring to the Poll Tax "Statement and Account" of each of the two years, enclosed in my Despatches, No. 20, of 10th March 1856, and No. 9, of 10th January last, that the expenditure in matters chargeable to that branch of revenue exceeded in 1856 that in the previous year by the sum of 1,684*l.*, though in that there is not included, of the sum of 291*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.* mentioned in paragraph 3, more than the balance 3*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.* the fine of 288*l.* not having been entered as a receipt as not being properly allocated to poll tax revenue. Adding the 288*l.* to the 1,684*l.* the excess of this branch of expenditure in 1856 over 1855 would appear 1,972*l.*, showing that the excess in 1856 over 1855 of expenditure in matters chargeable to revenue, other than the poll tax, was not more than 297*l.*

5. The excess of expenditure in poll tax matters arose not only or principally from the two items referred to in paragraph 3, but because of extension of the education system, because also of the year 1856 being the first year during the entire of which the salaries of both of the two physicians to the Africans at 300*l.* a year each were chargeable; because, again, of a greater expenditure in material improvements, and the extended collection in 1855 requiring an increased number of collectors, whose salaries were principally paid on their passing their accounts in 1856.

6. One important cause of increase was however the payment of the poll tax stipends of chiefs whose presence at Cape Coast led to more rapid applications for payment than there would have been if they had remained in the bush. One of these stipends is of, as it appears to me, an unfortunately large amount, viz., that to the chiefs of Cape Coast Town. This had been promised by the Lieutenant Governor in the absence in 1853 of the Governor, and the latter was, I believe, unwilling to confirm it. The matter was, however, left unsettled when the administration of the Government devolved on me, and as, contingently on the collection of the poll tax, the amount in question was assured under the hand of a Lieutenant Governor, and with the public seal affixed, I always felt that I should have great difficulty in rescinding it; and after Major Ord's departure in 1856 the sum was paid in full for the collections of 1854 and 1855, and amounted in the whole to the sum of 238*l.* 10*s.*, a sum of 22*l.* 10*s.*, part of it, having been previously paid, and the original total amount was in fact increased by the yearly sum of 9*l.*, in order to include one of the seven "companies" of the town which had been originally omitted.

7. The revenues of the two years stand as follows: 1855,—9,830*l.* 9*s.* 3½*d.*; 1856,—12,917*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.*; excess in 1856,—3,087*l.* 1*s.* 5½*d.* This apparent excess

is, however, principally occasioned by there being included in the Blue Book of 1856, under the head "Receipts in aid of Revenue," the sum of 2,572*l.* 7*s.* 5*d.* the balance in hand on 31st December 1855, while the balance in hand on 31st December 1854, was not included as a part of revenue in the Blue Book of 1855.

8. The customs receipts of the two years stand as follows: 1855, 614*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.*; 1856, 1,741*l.* 10*s.* 5*d.* In order to estimate, however, how the Ordinance increasing the duties worked, there ought fairly to be added to the sum of 1,741*l.* a sum of about 200*l.* which was remitted to certain parties early in the year on the plea of their being taken by surprise, and also a sum of upwards of 300*l.* which the Acting Collector of Customs informs me was owed at the end of the year 1856 by solvent persons for goods imported during the year. These sums together would show what may here be called a receipt of 2,250*l.* for customs duties.

9. The year 1855 was a large import year, and the amount of duties received in it at the then rate of import duty, one half per cent., was considerably above an average. The average receipt of customs duties for the ten years, 1846 to 1855, was 379*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.*, and for the five years, 1851 to 1855, 386*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.*; in 1855 the amount was 614*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.* The rate of duty during the year 1856 cannot, calculating the various changes, be estimated, I conceive, higher than 2½ per cent. for the entire year. This amount bears, I need not say, to one half per cent. the proportion of 9·2, and therefore the average at 2½ per cent. for the ten years, 1846 to 1855, calculating on the above basis, would have been 1,710*l.*, and for the five years, 1851 to 1855, 1,740*l.*, whereas I have shown that the duties of 1856 may be reckoned as amounting to 2,250*l.* The duties of 1855 reckoned in this way would have been 2,763*l.*

10. The amount in value of imports appears in the returns considerably less for 1856 than 1855. They stand as follows: Imports 1855, 149,587*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.*; imports 1856, 105,634*l.* It will be observed that this last-mentioned amount of imports corresponds nearly with the sum of 2,250*l.* which I have stated is to be regarded as the receipt for duties in 1856, for from this latter we calculate an importation of duty-paying articles to the amount of 100,000*l.* (i.e. 2,250*l.*  $\times \frac{100}{225}$ ). The value of imports being in 1856 taken from the returns made by the importers for the purpose of assessing the duty are not likely to show the entire value.

11. The export trade of the year was, I fear, depressed by an alarm of Ashantee invasion spread by some of the natives of the Gold Coast, who said that they had been stopped in Ashantee by an army on its march, and these men being almost immediately released hastened back across the boundary and then to their chiefs telling their story as they went. Many Ashantee traders then in the protected territories were in consequence seized in several towns and their property detained, even after they themselves were released by my orders. I am happy to say that, though the property was detained as I have said, it does not seem to have been appropriated, and a captain of the King of Ashantee, sent up by him to me for the purpose, is now in company with some soldiers and constables sent by me, recovering through the country the detained property; and the King of Ashantee has already sent a further messenger to thank me for the progress which is being made in the recovery. These events, however, prevented, almost entirely during the last three months of 1856, the Ashantees trading in these settlements. I may perhaps be excused introducing here an anecdote connected with the last-mentioned Ashantee messenger. It was announced to me on the 22d ult. that this messenger from the King of Ashantee had arrived accompanied by six gold-handled swords; these, however, turned out to be three double-handed swords. The messenger came to me on the 25th ult. to wish me good bye, and on going away, and after I had shaken hands with him, which seemed to have emboldened him, he asked me to accept an Ashantee pipe worked to represent a double-headed snake striking two birds. I asked had he seen a double-headed snake; he replied that he had, and that in consequence the King of Ashantee had the swords which accompanied him, and which I have mentioned, made double handed, and called him, the messenger, the double-headed man. I said I hoped he had the wisdom of two heads, and his look seemed to imply that such was the meaning of his appellation. I have thought that perhaps this article, which thus came into my possession, and the anecdote might not be uninteresting, and that some museum would be

glad of the present, and the pipe will accordingly be forwarded in the despatch bag.

12. With reference to the poll tax revenue, the year 1856 was an exceptional one; I am glad that it proved even as productive as it has. I have, by my Despatch No. 9, of 10th January last, reported that the Akim countries had promised to resume paying the tax, and I have now the gratification to add that remittances have been received from each collector of the two Akim districts.

13. The educational returns show that both our schools and scholars increased in number during the year.

14. There was much sickness during the year, and many of the military officers were invalided home; two died here and one on his passage to England; the wife of another of the officers died here. The year was remarkable on this account, that—there being a prevalent opinion in the country that, as leap year, there would be very heavy rains,—there was, in fact I may almost say no rain in the usual rainy season at this place and in the country lying eastward of it and for about thirty miles westward of it, comprising the much larger part of the protected territories. The second rains were for them heavy, and most seasonable in their supply of water. There has, happily, not been anything as far as I am aware that can be called famine. The first crop of corn very much failed, but it is not, I am told, much an article of food in the interior, and they have the good fortune in this country of being able to have a second crop of corn in the year. They appear as easily and simply a fed people as any in the world. The trees give them plantains, palm nuts (for soup), palm wine, and bananas; I may also add they give them monkeys whose bodies they eat, and whose skins with the hair (black and grey) are sent in quantities to Europe, and were I am told in the winter of 1856-7 one of the most fashionable of ladies' furs. In some merely physical respects the people are of the proverbial class fortunati nimium.

15. Having now for three successive years reported on the Blue Book of this Government there is little in the way of general observation of novelty and interest appertaining to the subject which I could add here. I trust that even during that period the protected territory and the Government have advanced. In the latter, notwithstanding its protracted provisional administration, the progress of system, vigour, and British appreciation in the country has I hope continued. In the settlements and protected territory I hope that peace, justice, education, and medical aid, and diffusion of employment and trade among the natives, and greater estimation of agricultural pursuits and production of the staple article of export on the Guinea Coast, palm oil, have fostered or are the results of progressive improvement. I do not mean that any individual makes perhaps now such profits as were formerly made, but I see nothing in that to qualify my position.

16. In my report last year I referred to the want of beasts of burden. Since then some attempt has been again made to keep horses here, and one officer lost by deaths three in about as many months. There are however at present two ponies living here. I inquired from the King of Ashantee's messengers lately here whether they had horses at Coomassie, but they said they had not; that they were brought to them from the interior, and that they sent them on to the water side; that even in the interior great care is expended on them, mentioning as instances that they are washed and their feet looked after, and their teeth, mouths, and tongues cleaned, and added that any person trying to keep a horse here ought to get a man from the interior to groom him.

17. It is gratifying to part with political subjects on a point so unpolemical as horse grooming.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) H. CONNOR,  
Acting Governor.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

## ST. HELENA.

No. 28.

## ST. HELENA.

No. 28.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor HAY to the Right Honourable  
H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 26.)

St. Helena, May 28, 1857.

(Received July 29, 1857.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book of St. Helena for the year 1856.

2. The variations in the details of this document from year to year must ordinarily be small.

3. Entirely dependent on the number and importance of the homeward-bound shipping from the East resorting to the port for supplies (averaging about one thousand ships per annum), the condition of the island and its inhabitants, its revenue and expenditure, is proportionately uniform.

4. The returns for the past year, at the termination of which I assumed the government, offer no prominent facts for remark, but I shall be prepared at a later period to lay before you the results of my observation and inquiries during the present year on the condition and prospects of the island.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) E. H. DRUMMOND HAY,  
Governor.

Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.  
&c. &c.

## CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

## CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

[The Annual Report for 1856 has not been received from the  
Cape of Good Hope.]

## NATAL.

No. 29.

## NATAL.

No. 29.

COPY of DESPATCH from Lieut.-Governor SCOTT to the Right Honourable  
H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 53.)

Government House, Natal, June 26, 1857.

(Received October 15, 1857.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book for the year 1856.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) J. SCOTT,  
Lieut.-Governor.

Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.,  
&c. &c.



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PART IV.  
AUSTRALIAN COLONIES AND  
NEW ZEALAND.

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PART IV.—AUSTRALIAN COLONIES AND  
NEW ZEALAND.NEW  
SOUTH WALES.

No. 30.

## NEW SOUTH WALES.

No. 30.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor General Sir W. DENISON to the  
Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 158.)

Government House, Sydney,  
December 23, 1857.

(Received March 16, 1858.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book for the year 1856; my absence at Norfolk Island, as mentioned in my Despatch No. 5, dated 28th October last, and my confinement to my bed since my return from thence in consequence of a severe accident, from which, however, I am now recovering, will explain the delay which has occurred in transmitting these statistical returns.

In drawing your attention to the contents of this book, I think that the condition of the colony will be brought more clearly before you by the course which I am adopting, of referring first to the numbers and condition of the population as shown by the census taken on the 1st March 1856, the returns of which occupy upwards of 100 pages of the book, namely from page 685 to page 793.

The report from the Registrar General, which is prefixed to these returns, is a valuable document. It enters into an analysis of the various facts exhibited in the tables, to some of which I now propose to direct your attention.

The increase in the population of New South Wales during the interval which has elapsed between the census of 1851 and that of 1856 has amounted altogether to 78,946 persons, or to 42·1 per cent. In former Blue Books it has been usual to submit an approximate estimate of the population, deduced from the previous census by adding to the number of the population therein shown the balance of births over deaths, and immigration over emigration. As, however, the Government has not been in possession of any returns of those who may have left the colony by crossing the boundaries which separate it from Victoria and South Australia, these approximate estimates can never be correct; and accordingly we see that whereas in the Blue Book of 1855 the population was stated to amount to 277,579 persons, the returns of the numbers actually in the colony on the 1st March 1856, or two months later than the date of the Blue Book, give only 266,189; so that instead of an increase of two or three thousand, there is an actual falling off of 7,857.

I concur with the Registrar General in attributing this difference to the unnoted emigration across the frontier. The existence of this drain, fluctuating in amount as it must do in proportion to the temptation held out by the Gold Fields on either side of the frontier, will of course invalidate the accuracy of any estimate of the population not based upon an actual enumeration.

The returns of the census of 1856 show, as I have before stated, an increase during the last five years equivalent to 42·1 per cent., and although it would not be quite correct to say that the increase during such year of that period has been one fifth of the above, or 8·2 per cent., yet this will give a sufficiently close approximation to the truth, to justify an inference as to the proportion of any increase of revenue which may be due to the addition made to the number of consumers.

On reference to the returns it will be seen that the increase of males has been slightly in excess of that of females, and this must be expected when a large proportion of the general increase is due to immigration; but on taking the aggregate number of males and females as shown in the returns for 1851 and 1856, it will be seen that while in the former year the females formed 43·2 per cent. of the population, their proportion had increased in 1856 to 44·7 per cent. The disparity of the sexes, which was one of the great evils with which

the colony was afflicted, is therefore rapidly decreasing. The table in page 693 shows, that since 1828 the annual average increase of males has been 16·5 per cent., while that of females has been 38·8 per cent.

The returns which exhibit in a general way the state of education are by no means satisfactory, either absolutely or relatively. The report of the Registrar General shows, that a very large proportion of the children between the ages of 4 and 14 are altogether uneducated, and the comparison between the returns of 1851 and 1856 shows, that little has been done during the last five years to place the means of education within the reach of the scattered population of the colony. Upon this subject I shall have more to remark hereafter.

The increase in the population during the last five years has been 42·1 per cent., while that of the houses has been at the utmost, including tents and drays, 36 per cent., or, exclusive of these, only 31 per cent. This fact is sufficient to account for the very great increase in house rent, for it would appear that in order to give the present population the same amount of accommodation which was afforded in 1851, upwards of 3,400 houses would have to be built. This is an evil which is likely to go on increasing until the price of labour is reduced, for although very high rents are asked and paid for houses affording a very limited amount of accommodation, yet the cost of erection is so great as to leave, even with these high rents, but a small margin of profit to the builder. I call this an evil, and indeed a great one; for I look upon it as likely to have a very prejudicial influence upon the health, character, and habits of the people. In a sanitary point of view, the effect of crowding persons together in such a climate as this cannot but be most injurious, and the pressure which compels persons to be satisfied with a very inferior amount of accommodation to that to which they have been accustomed, which thrusts the occupant of a house into a small cottage, and makes the cottager resort to a mere hark hut, will probably after a time, should it continue, have the effect of permanently lowering the standard of comfort and convenience which each class of society establishes for itself, and of generating slovenly and untidy habits among all classes.

The other subjects to which the Registrar General has alluded in his report are either so fully treated by him as to render any remark of mine unnecessary, or will be alluded to under other heads of this Despatch. The effect of the establishment of the office of Registrar General will, I have no doubt, show itself in the greater accuracy of all statistical returns; and the tables from page 981 to page 1,020 at the end of the Blue Book will every year become in consequence more correct and more useful.

The comparative statement of the revenue collected in 1855 and 1856 shows that the gross receipts of 1855 were 1,660,710*l.*, while those of 1856 were 1,986,553*l.*, the difference 325,843*l.* being the increase of revenue in the latter year; but as these totals include not only the land revenue, but also the amount borrowed, no inference can be drawn from them as to the progress of the colony. If, however, we deduct the sums raised by loan, amounting in 1855 to 630,966*l.*, and in 1856 to 856,538*l.*, and also the land revenue (including the assessment on stock), amounting in 1855 to 336,674*l.*, and in 1856 to 346,986*l.*, the balance showing the revenue from ordinary sources will be as follows:—

In 1855 - 693,070*l.*

1856 - 783,029*l.*

the difference 89,959*l.*, or the increase in 1856 being 12·9 per cent. The increase in population will, as it has been shown, account for about 8 per cent. of this. The additional 4·9 per cent., amounting to 34,000*l.*, may be due partly to the increased duties imposed upon certain articles towards the end of 1855, and partly to the general improvement of the colony. The increase in the customs does not fall far short of 50,000*l.* or 11·7 per cent. It is, however, impossible to say how much of this is due to the increased rate of duty, and how much to increased consumption, without entering into an analysis for which the returns furnished by the customs and other departments do not afford sufficient data. It is evident that of this 11·7 per cent., 8 per cent. must be charged to the additions made to the population.

The revenue derived from the sale of land has fallen off during 1856 to the extent of upwards of 25,000*l.* This may, I think, be attributed in a great measure to the prevalence of an idea that some steps would be taken by the Legislature either to lower the upset price, or to afford some greater facilities to the purchaser than are held out by the existing regulations. The same cause

will, of course, continue to operate so long as the policy of the Government in relation to the waste lands of the Crown continue unsettled.

The expenditure during the year 1856 exceeded that of 1855 by 160,110*l*. The total outlay during the former year being 1,835,134*l*, while in 1855 it amounted to 1,675,024*l*.

On reference to the returns it will be seen that there has been an increase of charge under nearly every head of expenditure. The principal additions, however, will be found under the heads of interest upon debentures and public works, the cost of these latter being defrayed out of the money raised by the sale of debentures. Under the head of interest upon debentures the increase has been 51,918*l*. 12*s*. 2*d*. ; and under the head of public works there has been an additional outlay of 123,964*l*. Against the charge for interest should be set the receipts from the railway, amounting to 11,157*l*., these are the net amounts after the payment of all current expenses. And though the interest upon the capital expended is very much in excess of their net receipts, yet I have no doubt but that in the course of a few years, the existing railways, which form the trunks with which all the great lines of communication must connect, will, if judgment and discretion be shown in the extension of them into the interior, pay a very good interest upon the capital expended upon them.

The expenditure for the survey, sale, and management of Crown land was 81,611*l*. in 1856, and 78,728*l*. in 1855, showing an increase of 2,883*l*., while the receipts for the sale of land, as shown in the statement of the comparative revenue, were less than in the previous year to the extent of 25,000*l*. The expense of the survey and management of Crown lands, if thrown altogether upon the proceeds of the sale of such land, would amount in 1855 to 29.9 per cent., or 5*s*. 9*½**d*. in the pound upon the receipts, while in 1856 the charge would be 33.23 per cent. of the receipts for land sold, or 6*s*. 7*¾**d*. in the pound. On referring to the table at page 934, it appears that the per-centage of 6*s*. 7*¾**d*. per pound would amount to a charge of upwards of 9*s*. per acre upon the land sold, as this did not amount to more than 117,753 acres. Any proposition therefore to lower the upset price of land, should its practical effect be to lessen the amount paid per acre, would in effect diminish the net amount paid into the Treasury. The proposal to reduce the upset price seems to me to proceed upon an erroneous idea of the motives which induced the Government to adopt the particular sum of 20*s*. as a minimum. It appears that the sum of one pound is considered to be the measure of the minimum value of the land, instead of being the measure of the minimum amount of the charge which would have to be defrayed from the proceeds of the sale of the land, such charge comprising, 1*st*, the expense of survey and management; 2*d*, that of constructing roads and providing access to the land, so as to enable the settler to bring his produce to market; 3*d*, that of immigration, or, more correctly, of furnishing the settler with the means of cultivating his land to advantage. By an analysis of the charge of survey and management, it would seem that this, at the present time when the price of labour is high, and therefore the work of surveying costly, has cost 33.23 per cent., or 6*s*. 7*¾**d*. per pound. The charge for roads and bridges in 1856 amounted to 66,858*l*., and notwithstanding this outlay, which is exclusive of the expenditure on railways, all the main lines of communication were almost impassable; that is, an expenditure of 27.2 per cent., or about 5*s*. 6*d*. in the pound, was altogether insufficient to keep the principal thoroughfares in a passable state. The expenditure upon immigration in 1856 amounted to 120,647*l*. or 49.1 per cent. of the receipts from the sale of land; and yet the wages of every description of labour are very high, so that in 1856

The charge for survey and management being	-	-	33.23
That for the repair of roads	-	-	27.2
That for immigration	-	-	49.1

Total - 109.53

shows that the sum received from the sale of land was not sufficient to defray the charges which are fairly thrown upon that source of revenue. I am aware that there is an idea that a reduction in the price of land to 5*s*. per acre would induce a much greater sale, and that the proceeds of the Land Fund would be very much increased; it is, however, very questionable whether a much greater sum would be expended upon the purchase of land than is now the case, though

more land would of course be sold. It is possible that for a year or two persons would be tempted to invest money in land upon speculation, but this would very soon come to an end, and the sooner because the withdrawal of a certain amount of money now deposited in the banks, and made available thereby for mercantile investment, would increase the value of money, raise the rate of interest, and thus diminish the value of the land purchased. Irrespective, however, of this, I would observe, that all the charges defrayed from the proceeds of land sales are acreable charges; the survey must be paid for per acre; the more land is sold the greater extent of road which must be or ought to be made to afford access to it; the more land is sold the more hands will be required to enable the purchaser to derive a profit from it. Any measure therefore which would have a tendency to reduce the price of land below an amount which is inadequate to defray the charges fairly placed upon the Land Fund, would in point of fact either throw upon the community in general a charge which ought to be defrayed out of the price of the land, or induce a neglect of two matters of the utmost importance to the prosperity of the colony, namely, the introduction of a sufficient amount of labour, without which capital cannot be profitably employed, and the maintenance of proper means of communication, without which the purchaser of land cannot possibly cultivate it to advantage.

The only portion of the return of the Commissariat expenditure to which it is necessary to draw attention is that which refers to the maintenance of the Imperial convicts. In page 168 a return is given of the total number of colonial and Imperial convicts. In page 170 a return is given of the total charge for the discipline and maintenance of those convicts who are under punishment, the average cost, as there shown, being 52*l.* 1*s.* 5*d.*, for each convict. An allowance, however, is made for the value of the work performed by these convicts, which reduces the amount of the charge from upwards of 1,700*l.* to 195*l.* 16*s.*, or to about 6*l.* per head.

The local revenues, of which the returns are furnished in pages 172 to 179, consist of those which are administered by the corporation of the city of Sydney: first, for paving and lighting the streets; second, for supplying the town with water; and third, for establishing a proper system of drainage and sewerage.

The corporation now consists of a mayor and 15 aldermen, elected under the provisions of the Act 20 Vict. No. 36, and the funds at the disposal of this body consist, first, of the rates which it is empowered to levy; and, secondly, of an endowment from the Government, or a composition for the rates which the Government buildings would be liable to, amounting to 10,000*l.* per annum.

The corporation has had transferred to it the powers vested in the commissioners by the Acts 17 Vict. Nos. 34 and 35, intitled respectively the Sydney Sewerage and the Sydney Water Act; and it is now carrying on the works for which the legislature in those Acts sanctioned the outlay of certain amounts to be raised by the issue of debentures. When these are completed, the interest will be paid out of the proceeds of special rates. The water will be procured from a reservoir at the distance of about seven miles from Sydney, into which the drainage of a large area of country discharges itself. The water which falls upon the whole of this area is subjected to a process of natural filtration, as it has to pass through a thick bed of sand. It comes to the reservoir in a very pure state, and will be from thence pumped by three powerful engines to reservoirs high enough to command all the houses in Sydney and its suburbs. The supply available is adequate to the wants of a population three times as numerous as that of Sydney at present; and there will be no difficulty in extending the area, which may be made to discharge itself into the reservoir should any necessity of increasing the supply present itself.

In pages 178 and 179 returns are given of the revenue and expenditure of certain road trusts. The total amount raised is small, and the results of the expenditure upon the roads by no means encouraging. The Government contributes a small amount in certain instances in aid of the amount raised by the tolls. I trust that in the course of a short time some comprehensive scheme for the maintenance of the roads of the colony will be sanctioned by the Legislature, for at present nothing can be more miserable than the condition of the roads after any wet weather.

The works which have been undertaken for the defence of the harbour of Sydney are approaching their completion. When they are finished and armed,

NEW  
SOUTH WALES

any attempt to annoy the town, or to injure or carry off the shipping anchored in the harbour, can only be made at the risk of very heavy loss, for a cross fire is established from five heavily armed batteries upon every access to the anchorage. For the manning of these works the colony is dependent upon the military force stationed at Sydney, consisting of one regiment of the line and one company of artillery. During the war with Russia, volunteer corps were formed of cavalry, artillery, and rifles; but on the restoration of peace, these corps have dwindled away, and may be said to have become extinct. Should, however, any occasion arise which may call for their services, I have no doubt that a body of men might be speedily organized which would co-operate energetically and usefully with the regular troops. Until, however, such a necessity shall arise, I do not think it probable that under the present circumstances of the colony any effective military body could be maintained.

A large sum has been expended in various public works during the course of the year. In page 218 a recapitulation is given of the amount expended under different heads, the total of which is 748,250*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.*; of this 115,770*l.* has been appropriated to the repair of different public buildings, to the erection of the defences before alluded to, and to the completion of various buildings for the Judicial Establishment, the Police, and other Departments of the Government. A large sum has been appropriated to the repair of different lines of road; but, as I have before stated, this amount has not been in any way adequate to maintain these in a passable state. 365,858*l.* has been expended upon the extension of the lines of railway from Sydney and from Newcastle, 58,675*l.* has been advanced to the commissioners or the corporation of Sydney for the construction of the sewerage work, and 69,207*l.* for the water works, 30,000*l.* has been paid to the senate of the university, as the remainder of the sum of 50,000*l.* voted for the purpose of erecting the necessary buildings, in which great progress has been made. 3,000*l.* has in like manner been paid to the trustees of one of the colleges affiliated to the University for a similar purpose; and 25,000*l.* to the trustees of the Sydney Grammar School. The buildings for which these sums were appropriated will probably be fit for occupation early in 1858.

The returns which have reference to education are by no means satisfactory; the population abstracts, as I have before noticed, show that a very large proportion of the children of the colony are altogether untaught; and a comparison of the number of children on the books of the existing schools with the number of those of an age to attend school will show one of two things,—either that these children have not the means of attending school,—that is, that there are no schools within reach of them,—or that their parents are indifferent to the welfare of their children, and care not to afford them that amount of instruction of which they themselves have not felt the want. On reference to the population returns, it would appear that of persons about 21 years of age there are 22,794 who cannot read,—that is, nearly one fifth of the adult population have not even the rudiments of education. There are 46,607 children between the ages of 7 and 14, of these 11,318 cannot read; and if we refer to the number of children who attend school, we shall find there are only 20,426 on the books. Owing to the absence of any efficient system of training masters for these schools, and more especially of any sufficient inducement to well informed persons to devote themselves to the business of tuition, the instruction afforded at the schools which do exist is of very inferior quality. There are no proper inspectors of schools whose business it ought to be to report to the Government periodically upon the state of the schools. In fact there is nothing in the shape of a proper system of instruction or supervision provided. The Legislature has shown itself willing to appropriate funds for educational purposes. It has made large grants for the establishment of a grammar school, for colleges, and a university. A sum, too, is voted annually for the primary schools; but it has not placed in the hands of Government any sufficient power to regulate and methodize this expenditure; and until this is done I cannot anticipate any satisfactory results from the outlay. The actual amount of money which would be required in order to afford a proper education to the 46,000 children between the ages of 7 and 14 is one very great difficulty in the way of the introduction of a good system, and one that I cannot expect to see overcome unless some special rate or tax can be appropriated solely to this purpose; and

this tax should be one that would bear a constant ratio to the population, as in that case the amount would increase exactly in proportion to the demands upon the education fund thus raised.

The returns of imports show an increase over those of the preceding year to the extent of nearly 17 per cent.; this increase has taken place principally in the trade with England, and the British Colonies, and the United States of America. There has been a reduction in the trade with Foreign States to the extent of 214,474 tons. The value of articles exported has increased from 2,884,130*l.* in 1855, to 3,430,880*l.* in 1856, or to the extent of about 19 per cent. There is, however, a serious omission in these returns, inasmuch as they give no account of an enormous export of sheep, cattle, and horses which has taken place to Victoria overland. It is difficult to form even an approximate estimate of the number or value of the stock which has passed into Victoria by this route. On reference, however, to the return in page 994, showing the number of live stock in the colony on the 31st December of each year from 1847 to 1856 inclusive, it will be seen that there was a reduction of sheep to the extent of 866,176, and as the average annual increase would appear to have been about 4 per cent., this decrease can only be accounted for on the supposition of an exportation to the extent of nearly a million sheep in the course of 1856. The returns, as I have said before, show an average annual increase in sheep to the extent of about 4 per cent. The increase of cattle may be put at 8 per cent., but as the average increase of the population in New South Wales is 8 per cent., and that in Victoria very far in excess of this, it is evident that if the cattle and sheep are only now adequate to maintain the existing population, in a few years other means must be taken to increase the amount of stock, or a change must be made in the habits of the population, and people must be content with a much smaller allowance of animal food than they at present consume. At present the live stock in New South Wales is more than adequate to the wants of the population, but if the people of Victoria already require upwards of 10 per cent. of the sheep of this colony to supply them with food, there will be a very rapid reduction in the number of live stock, and a very marked change must speedily take place, either in the system of management of the land, or in the domestic habits of the people. The returns from which these inferences are drawn cannot I admit be depended upon as absolutely correct; but as the information has been obtained in the same manner for several years, the probability is that the proportions are accurate. I trust, however that the importance which must attach to inquiries in which the whole population is so much interested will lead to a more systematic and correct mode of prosecuting these statistical inquiries.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) W. DENISON.

## VICTORIA.

No. 31.

VICTORIA.

No. 31.

COPIES of DESPATCHES from Governor Sir H. BARKLY to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 10.)

Government Offices, Melbourne,  
19th January 1857.  
(Received 11th April 1857.)

SIR,

1. As the duty of forwarding the annual Blue Book of 1855 has devolved upon me, I must endeavour, notwithstanding I only arrived in the colony at the end of 1856, to point out the most noticeable features of the returns comprised in it; but I shall do so briefly, as they have lost much of their interest from lapse of time.

### *State of Public Finances.*

2. The general tariff of import duties remained as settled on a somewhat advanced scale at the close of the preceding year by 18 Vict. No. 9.

B b 4

No. 10.  
Enclosure A.  
Duties and Taxes.

## VICTORIA.

3. An export duty of 2s. 6d. per ounce of gold came into operation in the month of April 1855, as a substitute for the heavy licence fees previously exacted from miners; and not only worked more smoothly, as was anticipated, but produced a larger revenue.

4. The tax of 10*l.* per head imposed on every Chinese arriving, by 18th Vict. No. 39, came into force from the 12th June, and proved a complete failure in a fiscal point of view. Its effect has been to compel vessels from China to repair in the first instance to South Australia, whence their passengers proceed overland to the gold fields; but it is thought by its advocates to have thus indirectly checked this objectionable species of immigration.

## Revenue and Expenditure.

5. The confusion arising from the defective system of imprests formerly prevailing in the Treasury here having continued throughout 1855, I regret to find the accounts as furnished afford extremely meagre and unsatisfactory information of the financial position of the colony during that year.

6. As that system was abolished from its close, and the amount of unadjusted imprests did not then much exceed two hundred thousand pounds, I was in hopes that a correct analysis of the entries proper to each year's service would by this time be attainable as a supplement to the Blue Book return, but I am informed that it cannot, even yet, be perfected.

7. The nominal gross revenue stands in the return

At	-	-	-	-	£4,962,333
As against	-	-	-	-	6,154,928

in 1854, showing an apparent decline of 1,192,595*l.*, but as the imprests for 1854, adjusted in 1855, were less by 691,590*l.* than those for 1853, adjusted in 1854, this deficit is reduced to about half a million sterling.

8. The "General Revenue," omitting moneys included under that title, though raised by way of loan, appears in fact to have been rather larger than in the previous year, the deficit thus shown being entirely chargeable to the "Territorial Revenue" as then distinguished; the falling off in the receipts for Crown lands sold having amounted to no less than 562,715*l.*

9. The comparison between the two years ought, it would seem, to stand as under:—

—	Gross Credits.	Adjustments.	General Revenue.	Territorial Revenue.
1854.	6,154,928	2,342,176	2,386,398	1,426,854
1855.	4,962,333	1,650,586	2,462,221	849,526
	decr. 1,192,595	decr. 691,590	incr. 75,823	decr. 576,828

The loans credited to the general revenue in 1854 being 590,000*l.*, whilst in 1855 the amount realized by sale of debentures was 562,812*l.* only, would make a further difference of about thirty thousand pounds in favour of the latter year.

10. The accounts of the expenditure are still more complicated than those of revenue. The gross debits, including imprests unadjusted at the end of each year, are—

in 1854	-	-	-	£6,043,049
and in 1855	-	-	-	4,716,696

showing a decrease in the latter of 1,326,353

and it is probable the actual outlay for the year was diminished in nearly equal proportion, for the reduction under the head of Public Works is stated at 628,989*l.*; that under the kindred title of Waterworks, at 265,877*l.*; whilst the remittances to England were less by 173,787*l.*, (a saving effected at the expense of emigration,) the decrease under these three heads alone being thus considerably more than a million.

11. The expenditure for the services of 1854 has been finally adjusted at little over four millions, and whatever that of 1855 may prove, there can be but little doubt it will turn out, like its predecessor's, considerably in excess of the nett revenue of the year, notwithstanding the enormous reductions carried



out by Sir Charles Hotham, by means of which, and by the subsequent improvement in every branch of the revenue, all trace of the financial crisis, which at one time threatened to be so formidable, has been obliterated.

12. Strictly speaking, indeed, the year 1855 did lay the foundation of a public debt for the colony, 480,000*l.* (? 560,000*l.*, page 56) having been borrowed out of 800,000*l.* authorized by 18th Vict. No. 44, to be raised for supplying Melbourne and Geelong with water; but as the debentures are to be gradually liquidated by those directly benefited, it must rather be looked on as a legitimate guarantee of the credit of the citizens, than a burden on the general population.

13. Beyond this weighty engagement, no addition was made by the corporation of either city to their permanent liabilities; but it will be seen from the returns they send in that the expenditure in Melbourne was upwards of fifty thousand pounds beyond their income; and in Geelong the more modest sum of five thousand was over-spent;—no very strange result, when it is borne in mind that the civic authorities of both were actively engaged in meeting the unforeseen requirements of the vast masses of human beings which had flocked under their jurisdiction in the two or three preceding years.

14. This item, which is entirely provided for by the legislature of this colony, and, I believe, by no other British possession, rose from the sum of 110,796*l.* in 1854, to 159,664*l.* in 1855, owing mainly to the expenses entailed by the riots at the Ballarat diggings; though to the extent of 7,041*l.*, accounted for by the establishment of local corps.

15. Notwithstanding the large reduction, already mentioned in the expenditure under this head, the labours requisite for keeping pace with the rapid development of the material resources of this extraordinary country were not entirely pretermitted during the financial crisis. Very extensive improvements of all kinds will be seen to have been in progress throughout the colony; wharves and piers were completed to accommodate the shipping; custom houses and post offices built to secure the revenue; court houses, gaols, and public barracks for the prevention of crime; roads and bridges constructed for facilitating internal communication.

16. As a dispassionate observer, indeed, I feel bound to state, that whatever complaints may have been made on any of these points, it is impossible to contemplate what has been done in the last five years to introduce the appliances of an advanced stage of civilization into a trackless wilderness without the utmost admiration and astonishment. Still more rapid progress may fairly be anticipated under the popular representative institutions recently granted; but it would be most disingenuous to ignore what has been already accomplished under the old and much abused form of government.

17. The diminution in the number of office holders in the year, from 1,800 to 1,500, no less than the reduction of salaries, noted at almost every page of the return, attests the reality of the retrenchment effected at so great a cost of personal popularity by Sir Charles Hotham.

18. The exceptions to the latter rule of reduction are assignable to the introduction of responsible government on the 27th November 1855, the heads of the department then made political becoming entitled to the higher rates of salary provided for them in the new Constitution Act.

19. The immediate addition caused to the pension list by this event was trifling, as the previous holders were, with two exceptions, re-appointed to office.

#### *Condition, &c., of the People.*

20. The population statistics given do not seem very reliable. A census taken in the best manner practicable on 26th April 1854, gave a total of 236,798 souls, and the calculation as carried on subsequently, by adding the known increase through immigration and natural causes, brings that total up to 319,379 on 31st December 1855, exclusive of 2,500 aborigines.

21. No record, however, is kept of the arrivals overland of Chinese and others from New South Wales and South Australia, which must considerably exceed the departures by the same routes, so that the comparison between immigrants and emigrants is confined to those coming or going by sea. These in 1855 were 66,571 and 26,395 respectively,—showing a nett increase of 40,176;

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Public Debt.

Local Revenues.

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Pensions.

Population.

## VICTORIA.

whilst there were 11,941 births registered as against 6,603 deaths, making an addition from that source of 5,338; in all, an accession 45,314 souls in the year or more than 16 per cent. on the previous year's population.

22. The sexes are not specified in these returns, but it is to be feared that notwithstanding the endeavour of the Government to correct the excess of males by assisting more females to procure free passages from the British isles, this evil has been enhanced owing to the unsought influx of Chinamen, and that the census about to be now taken will exhibit a disproportion in this respect of at least 2 to 1.

## Education.

23. Great progress continues to be made through the liberal aid of the legislature in extending the means of instruction. The comparison with the returns of the previous year stands as under:—

Schools receiving State Aid.	1854.		1855.	
	No.	Scholars.	No.	Scholars.
Through National Board - - - -	43	3,014	59	3,532
Through Denominational do. - - -	216	14,364	311	17,711
Private Schools - - - -	259	17,378	370	21,243
		1,902	168	3,235
Total educated - - - -		19,280		24,478

Showing an increase of upwards of five thousand scholars.

24. Nor does the system seem to check private exertions, for in addition to the government grant of 11,421*l.* for National Schools, 5,051*l.* was collected by voluntary contributions; and in the case of Denominational Schools, the still larger proportion of 39,385*l.* was added to the aggregate grant of 59,242*l.*

25. The principal denominations accepting aid were

The Church of England,—educating about -	7,000 children.
Presbyterian churches	2,500    "
Wesleyans	4,000    "
Roman Catholics	4,000    "

*Trade and Commerce.*

## Exchanges, &amp;c.

26. The enormous speculative shipments of produce and manufactures from Great Britain to this market, occasioned by the excitement of the gold discoveries, led, as is well known about the middle of 1854, to a violent commercial re-action which, aided by the immense expenditure within the colony itself for public works and improvements not productive of immediate return, gave rise to the financial crisis already alluded to.

27. The downward progress of affairs continued with even greater intensity through a considerable portion of 1855, as is perceptible from the returns now under examination, although the improvement which took place towards the end of the year renders it less striking.

28. The fluctuations in the rate of exchange on London were in consequence numerous and extreme, ranging from 4 per cent. premium to par, at which it closed.

29. The amount of paper currency circulated by the seven banking establishments of the colony, which at the highest point of the preceding year had risen to nearly two millions and a half sterling, declined rapidly, and even on the entire year averaged below two millions (1,967,676*l.*)

## Imports.

30. The value of imports which in 1854 had reached the startling sum of 17,659,051*l.*, declined in 1855 to 12,007,939*l.*, showing a decrease of 5,651,112*l.* or about one-third.

Those from the mother country fell off in even a greater proportion, viz. from 10,942,375*l.*, to 5,617,149*l.*, nearly the whole of the decrease having been under that head, the inter-colonial traffic having slightly increased, while that with foreign countries was almost stationary.

## Shipping.

31. The falling off in the number of vessels arriving was of course to nearly an equal extent, only 551,726 tons having been entered inwards against

794,604 tons in 1854, and towards this but 277 ships from Great Britain contributed, instead of 650 as in the preceding year.

32. The comparison of entries outwards was somewhat more favourable, 1855 showing 681,551 tons against 798,887 in 1854, the amount of tonnage to Great Britain in each year being all but the same.

33. Fortunately, indeed, a cure for the commercial depression was readily furnished by the progressive development of the natural wealth of the colony, stimulated as that progress was by an increasing population. The estimated value of articles exported rose from 11,775,204*l.* in 1854 to 13,493,338*l.* in 1855, the entire excess being a remittance to Great Britain in the shape of gold, the shipments thither being valued at 9,628,396*l.*, in lieu of 7,919,468*l.*, or an increase of about one million and three quarters sterling.

34. The total export of gold, as shown by these returns, gives the following comparison for the two years :—

	Quantity.			Value.
	tons.	cwt.	grs.	£
1854 - - - - -	2,144,699	9	19	8,255,550
1855 - - - - -	2,751,535	8	16	10,904,150

or not quite so large an increase in value. The value of other exports was, in the aggregate, little altered,—wool, the most important of them, showing a decline, which must have arisen from a fall in price, as the shipments were very little smaller.

35. There is, however, in the returns included under the next head a serious defalcation traceable in the number of sheep, which, whether it be attributable to increased consumption of meat, the ravages of disease, or the discouragement of the pastoral interest, must, ere long, tell on the production of the above-named staple.

In 1854 the return gave 5,332,007 sheep.

„ 1855 - - - only 4,577,872 „

The number of cattle on the other hand had increased from 481,640 to 534,113.

36. Agriculture itself seems advancing with rapid strides, the number of acres of land under crop having risen from 54,905 to 115,135; the increase of wheat cultivation being in even a greater ratio, from 12,827 acres in 1854, to 42,686 acres in the year ending 31st March 1856, up to which period a very interesting and elaborate summary is appended.

37. The tendency of the population to an agricultural life, in spite of all the attractions of the gold fields, is still more strongly proved by the large quantities of crown lands which continue to be purchased as fast as put up to sale. Though the receipts into the Treasury from this source were, as already mentioned, smaller than in the previous year; this arose solely from the increased value of money, for 437,570 acres were disposed of in 1855 as against 405,679 in 1854. The prices realized were considerably below the average of 3*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* per acre, obtained in the latter; 2*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.* having been, as will be perceived, the highest rate per acre in 1855.

38. In other branches of industry, notwithstanding monetary difficulties, amazing activity is perceptible. Steam mills for grinding corn, sawing wood, &c., were established in all directions; breweries, soap and candle factories, sprung up in most of the towns; and not a few of the trades which minister to luxury took their origin. But it is at the gold diggings, as might be expected, that the chief progress is manifest, the substitution of machinery for manual power appearing to have been set about in earnest, as evidenced by the mention of 159 quartz crushing machines.

39. The universal opinion here seems to be, that by means of improvements of this kind the production of gold will be permanently kept at its present level, but it is satisfactory at all events to find that advantage is being taken of existing facilities to introduce population and open up the country as rapidly as possible for settlement.

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Gaols &amp; Prisoners.

40. I have already trespassed at so much length on your time, that I must defer further remarks to a future opportunity, adding merely, with reference to the only point of interest in the Blue Book on which I have not touched,—the extent of crime, that the returns as to the gaols, though carefully filled up for each separate establishment, afford little clue to one so recently arrived in the colony as myself to its criminal statistics.

I have, &amp;c.

Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.,  
&c.

(Signed) HENRY BARKLY.

(No. 125.)

Government Offices, Melbourne,

18th December 1857.

(Received 16th March 1858.)

Sir,

I REGRET that with every effort on my part to expedite the completion of the Blue Book for 1856, it has proved impossible to collect the returns from the different departments till nearly as late as in former years; but being assured that they will be delivered to me in a complete form in time to admit of their being forwarded by the next mail, I proceed to prepare the usual commentary on their contents, premising that my comments are not in most cases founded on personal observation, as I only arrived in the colony a week before the close of the year in question.

2. From the importance, however, conferred on Victoria during the last five years by its large export of gold, and the comparative ignorance which still is manifested in the mother country respecting its geographical position, social condition, and natural resources, it may perhaps be desirable for me to refer more freely as occasion offers to the first impressions made on my mind by the general aspect of things, and to draw your attention more continually than I should otherwise do to the extraordinary progress made in every respect since the "Port Phillip District" ceased, on the 1st July 1851, to form a portion of the colony of New South Wales.

3. The Blue Book returns may be resolved naturally into four groups, as they relate to the financial, the political, the social, or the industrial position of the colony; and it may prevent repetitions if I institute a comparison between its past and present state in each of these respects, when I come to the first heading pertaining to each group.

Financial.

4. In regard to finance, nothing can be more startling than the contrast displayed between the Victoria of 1851 and of 1856.

The gross revenue and expenditure in each year of the period were as under:—

		Revenue.			Expenditure.	
1851	-	£ 499,041	-	-	£ 410,864	
1852	-	1,635,494	-	-	981,565	
1853	-	3,271,710	-	-	3,249,491	
1854	-	3,275,497	-	-	4,554,735	
1855	-	3,342,633	-	-	2,830,112	
1856	-	3,369,251	-	-	2,799,152	

or, to sum up the result more exactly in the shape of an account current, as done in a parliamentary paper enclosed, the total ordinary revenue received between 1st July 1851 and 31st December 1856 was 13,815,610*l.*, the total ordinary expenditure 13,370,296*l.*, leaving, after crediting a repayment from the New South Wales treasury, and a trifling surplus on account of special revenue, a cash balance in hand on 31st December 1856 of 584,480*l.*

5. It may be inferred from these figures that after the development of the gold discovery, the revenue and expenditure have settled down at about three millions per annum, or sixfold what they amounted to at the time of separation. Population has as yet increased to a nearly similar extent; and large as is the average taxation per head, it must be assigned in fairness to this progressive augmentation of numbers and wealth, for the tariff of import duties, which constitutes the bulk of the revenue, was materially reduced directly after separation, and still remains lower, affecting moreover only seven articles, which, though generally consumed, must be termed luxuries, and not necessities of life.

6. Independently, indeed, of the fictitious appearance of extravagance which the high money value of labour gives to both sides of the account, there is another point requiring to be borne in mind since the land fund receipts

and disbursements have become blended with the General Revenue, namely, that the large sums sunk in public works and buildings and in roads and bridges, constituting fully a third of the aggregate expended, have been derived not from taxes but from the sale of land, and would be more correctly charged to "Capital Account."

7. In 1851 there was not a mile of macadamized road, and but 21 bridges of any kind in Victoria; at the end of 1856, as shown by a return enclosed, nearly 350 miles with 250 bridges were completed or in progress, at a cost of upwards of two millions sterling. The outlay on public buildings in the same period has exceeded a million and a half.

8. Up to 1856 the government had not been authorized to incur any expenditure for railway construction beyond a small sum paid to the Mount Alexander Company, but this did not arise from insensibility to the importance of rapid intercommunication, for the electric telegraph had been commenced alongside of all the main highways, and I found it on my arrival at work between Melbourne and the Heads of Port Phillip, via Williamstown and Geelong, a distance of 75 miles, branching from Geelong to Ballarat, 60 miles further, and from Melbourne to Sandhurst, via Castlemaine, 100 miles in a northerly direction. During the present year it has been completed to the other gold fields, the total length of wire finished or in progress being nearly 800 miles.

9. In addition to public works thus accomplished out of the revenue of the colony, others of great importance have been prosecuted by means of borrowed capital, either under governmental control or by the various municipal authorities which have been erected, the legislature contributing most liberal aid by grant, loan, or guarantee of interest. Of these the most remarkable are the Yarr-Yarr waterworks for the supply of Melbourne and its suburbs, an undertaking commenced four years since on a scale which would do honour to any age or any country, and which I hope to have the pleasure of bringing to a successful completion, by turning on the first jet before the year terminates. The water is accumulated in a reservoir formed by throwing an embankment, nearly three quarters of a mile in length, across the end of a valley, some 20 miles distant from the city, and 600 feet above its tidal level; a constant supply, independent of the natural rain fall, being secured by a conduit from the river Plenty, tunnelled for a quarter of a mile of its course through the surrounding hills. From the artificial lake thus formed, which already contains 7,000,000,000 gallons, or a seven years' supply for the entire population within its reach, iron tubes are laid down, which on reaching the city branch off through its streets, 45 miles of mains being laid down, and 30 miles more being prepared for the suburbs, the pressure of course being so great that the water will rise to the tops of the highest houses, though it is brought within safe bounds by an ingenious application of reducing valves, the invention of the engineer, Mr. Jackson.

10. Other undertakings of a similar kind, but on a smaller scale of course, are in progress in some of the more remote municipal districts, the number of which invaluable organizations is, I am happy to say, constantly increasing, under the provisions of the Act 18 Vict. No. 15, by which the governor in council is authorized to proclaim any area, not exceeding nine square miles, a municipality on the unopposed petition of 150 householders.

11. The Blue Book return enumerates 15 municipalities as existing in 1856, but beyond that states merely the amount of rate struck in each, which varies from 6d. to 1s. 6d. in the pound; nor does a parliamentary paper sent herewith give precise information as to the amount collected and expended in the majority of instances. In the present year two new municipalities being added, I learn from the Registrar General that the total valuation of rateable property is close upon two millions and a half sterling, whereof Melbourne and its suburbs constitutes more than half, viz., 1,364,894*l.*, Geelong 276,718*l.*, and the Gold Fields Towns 633,742*l.*, the balance being made up by the smaller seaports.

12. Some idea of the rapid development of the material prosperity of Victoria by means of its golden treasure being thus given, it only remains to make a few observations on the revenue returns of 1856 in particular, before dismissing the financial portion of my subject. It proved an eminently prosperous year to the colony in every respect, and by keeping the expenditure at the more moderate scale adopted after the crisis produced by the lavish outlay

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of 1854, the government was able without difficulty to complete the restoration of a sound state of finance.

13. The ordinary revenue amounted to 2,938,202*l.*, but with arrears of 1855, and cash in hand from that year, was 3,343,797*l.*

The total credits being brought by imprests adjusted, and receipts on special accounts to no less than - £4,065,607

The ordinary expenditure of 2,838,526*l.* being in like manner augmented by votes transferred and special debits to - 3,481,127

Leaving a balance, as already stated, of - - - £584,480

at credit of the colony in the various banks on 31st December 1856.

14. The military expenditure defrayed by the colonial treasury, as set forth in a separate return in the Blue Book, though still considerable, was upwards of thirty thousand pounds below that of 1855, exceeding, even after deduction of the cost of a mounted company of the 40th regiment employed on gold escort, a hundred thousand pounds. The profuseness under this head in earlier days has, as you are aware, since been followed by a reaction, which has given rise to questions with the imperial government still remaining to be settled.

15. The political institutions of the infant colony have, it cannot be denied, fully kept pace with the rest of its wonderful progress; since it has passed from an electoral district in 1851, entitled to return six members to a legislative council meeting at Sydney six hundred miles off, through the intermediate stage of being governed by a legislative council partly nominee and partly elective, assembled under a Lieutenant Governor of its own, to the full dignity of a tripartite legislature, consisting of two representative chambers, convened in Her Majesty's name by a Governor-in-Chief, for the first time in November 1856.

16. Owing to the transition state of affairs little legislation of consequence took place during the last session of the old council, but there will be found in the list of 21 Acts appended to the Blue Book two of some interest, for regulating elections under the new constitution, the latter of them carried only after a fierce struggle, introducing vote by ballot.

17. Hitberto this system has worked quietly and well, in no instance I am informed having any disturbance occurred at a poll; and it is evidently well adapted for the state of society in this country. By a return transmitted it will be seen that at the general election the number registered to vote for the legislative council in virtue of an estate worth 100*l.* per annum, or as belonging to the learned professions, was over ten thousand, of whom about half availed themselves of their votes; and that the number qualified by possession of a 5*l.* freehold or 10*l.* leasehold to elect the members of the assembly exceeded in the aggregate sixty thousand, scarcely more than two fifths of whom came to the poll; eight, however, out of thirty elections being uncontested.

18. The list of the civil establishment calls for little remark on my part, as neither the colonial office nor the Queen's representative have any longer much influence in its composition or rate of remuneration. I enclose, however, an elaborate statement in regard to it recently laid before parliament, giving the names of those in the public service reduced in 1854 as well as the date of re-employment, and the number and cost of the civil establishment in that and each of the two following years, as it manifests a degree of constitutional jealousy on the subject, and a regard for the claims, irrespective of party influences, of those whose services were from no fault of their own dispensed with, which augurs satisfactorily for the future working of a system attended with many dangers. The general summary shows that in:—

			£
1854 an establishment of	1,136	cost	525,112
1855       "       "	955	"	386,025
1856       "       "	949	"	404,605

Social.

19. Beginning, with a view of estimating the advance of society, with the numerical increase of the population, I find that on the 2d March 1851 the Port Phillip District contained 77,345 inhabitants, of whom 23,143 were congregated in the city of Melbourne, 18,348 in the metropolitan county of

Bourke, 12,781 in the city of Geelong and surrounding county of Grant, leaving but 23,065 as occupying the rest of a territory equal in area to Great Britain and Ireland together. The census taken on the 29th March 1857 shows a truly surprising change, for in these six years the population had augmented nearly in arithmetical ratio to 410,766, Melbourne and its suburbs partaking so far of the increase as to number 89,023 inhabitants, and Geelong 23,338, whilst the newly-discovered gold fields had attracted not less than 166,550, and the rural districts, opened up in due proportion, had become peopled by 131,855.

20. The Blue Book return of population on 31st December 1856 does not of course supply these figures, the number being calculated on the basis of the last year's estimate, adding the excess of births over deaths registered, and the recorded arrivals of immigrants by sea, those overland from the adjacent colonies still continuing to escape notice. The incorrectness of the result may be inferred from the subsequent census, as instead of 348,460, the population at the close of 1856 cannot have fallen very far short of 400,000.

21. The vital statistics of the colony give on the whole satisfactory indications, but it is difficult to draw conclusions of much value from data collected during so short a period in regard to a population constantly augmented in so large a ratio by immigration from all parts of the world, and so anomalously constituted on that account with respect to the average age and the sex of its members.

22. It appears from a table published in Mr. Westgarth's statistics of Victoria, that the population of females in 1854 between the ages of 15 and 45 was as 56 to 47 of those between these ages in Great Britain, and it might be expected, therefore, that the births in the two countries would bear the same relation to their total population. Assuming, however, as the cipher of the population of 1856, the mean between the returns for the beginning and end of that year, say 334,000, which would probably not be far from the mark, allowing for the omission of the Chinese, who are all males, the 14,406 births registered would give a ratio of 1 in 23 for Victoria against 1 in 34 in England, an excess which, however striking, will probably be continued, as the marriages returned for the year were 4,116, or 1 in 80, whilst the English standard is not above 1 in 128.

23. The ratio of mortality compares less favourably, considering that the proportion of males in the prime of life is very much larger than at home, (60 : 35), for raising the cipher to 360,000, so as to include Chinese, the 5,732 deaths registered would be as 1 in 62, or not much below the present rate in England (1 in 51 in 1831). In this case the counteracting cause clearly is, the excessive mortality among children, one third of the deaths consisting, according to the Registrar General, of infants dying within 12 months of their birth. Fortunately a comparison of that officer's reports for the last four years shows that, notwithstanding the greater pains taken to ensure registration, fewer deaths in proportion to the population are recorded. His statement to 30th June :—

		Births.		Deaths.
1853-4	gives	4,499	-	5,826
1854-5	"	10,210	-	6,572
1855-6	"	12,779	-	5,760
1856-7	"	15,937	-	6,521

24. The increase by recorded immigration during the year was 41,594 against 21,187 leaving the colony, so that the net addition from this source scarcely exceeded 20,000 souls; and it would seem that the class now coming in is not quite equal to the earlier immigrants, as the Registrar General has to report an increasing proportion of "marks" affixed by parties married. Still the educational standard is far higher than at home, for only 13·5 per cent. of the males and 30·5 per cent. of the females were unable to write their names, whereas 31 per cent. and 46 per cent. are the proportions respectively in the mother country.

25. Very large sums continue to be devoted to the education of the rising generation, about 230,000*l.* having, as will be seen, been granted in 1856 by the State, supplemented by 50,000*l.* from private contributions. The outlay is no doubt unnecessarily augmented by the maintenance of two distinct and rival systems, the "Denominational" and the "National;" but a bill is now before the legislature for uniting the two boards upon a compromise, and as it has

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passed its second reading in the Assembly by a very large majority, it seems probable that this fusion will eventually take place.

26. The number of children receiving instruction in national schools was 5,056, and in the schools of the various denominations 21,267, together 26,323, but the average attendance is seldom above two-thirds of the total on the roll, and as there must have been fully 35,000 children between the ages of 7 and 15, it can scarcely be deemed, notwithstanding the liberality of the grant, that education is making satisfactory progress.

27. The ecclesiastical return is very defective, no information being given as to the accommodation in, and attendance at, churches belonging to the Church of England. The places of worship belonging to all other religious denominations are said to have room for 67,912, and to be generally well filled; but this would seem to leave a large number unprovided for, as, according to the enclosed account of the distribution of the 50,000*l.* granted for public worship, there were in 1854 more than 87,000, besides the members of the Church of England, participating; and several sects, moreover, do not accept their proportion. Only half this amount is appropriated to the payment of stipends, the other moiety being expended in the erection of buildings, wherever an equivalent is offered to be raised by any congregation.

28. On the whole, though I fear the moral scarcely keeps pace with the material progress of the colony, a great deal has been accomplished; and though the number of criminals in proportion to the population is far larger than at home, great allowance must be made for the effect of the gold discoveries in drawing together convicts from the neighbouring colonies, and desperadoes from all parts of the world, and it is satisfactory to find that crime is under such circumstances diminishing. The greatest number in confinement at any one time in 1856 was 2,315, as against 2,538 in 1855, and at the close of the year 1,910 only remained, instead of 2,289.

29. There is certainly less excuse for crime in Victoria than in any other country, for though the demand for labour may be at some times slacker than at others, and there is no poor law for the unemployed to fall back on, the number of charitable institutions, immigrant aid societies, hospitals, benevolent asylums, &c. is, as will be seen from the accompanying list, very large, and they are everywhere most liberally supported both by the State and individual subscriptions. The number of friendly societies and other mutual benefit clubs is also increasing.

## Industrial.

30. Commerce and agriculture were in a very healthy state throughout the entire year. The note circulation of the banks had attained its highest point in the history of the colony on 31st December 1856, when it exceeded two millions and a half sterling, and the amount of coin in circulation must have been very much beyond the Blue Book estimate of three millions, as close upon that amount was held at the same time by these institutions, in addition to more than half a million in bullion. The progress in the five years in the commercial transactions of the colony may be judged when I add that the circulation in July 1851 barely exceeded one hundred thousand pounds, and the coin held was only two hundred and seventy thousand.

31. The ratio of increase in the imports and exports was more extraordinary still, as the following figures will demonstrate. Value of—

	1851.		1856.
Imports	556,437	-	£14,962,269
Exports	422,909	-	£15,489,760

More than half the former in 1856 came direct from Great Britain, the United States sending less than a twelfth, foreign countries a sixteenth, and the remainder coming from British colonies, especially those in the vicinity.

32. Of the exports, Great Britain took nearly thirteen millions' worth, ten and a half in gold, and one and a half in wool, the rest consisting of specie and minor products. Nearly two thousand ships, measuring over half a million tons, entered inwards, and nearly as many outwards, but the particulars of their nationality, cargoes, &c., &c., are not specified in the way required in the shipping return.

33. The agricultural statistics on the contrary are most carefully compiled, and will be found to give interesting details of the extent of land cultivated in each district, and the nature and extent of the crop grown. Though at the time



of separation in its infancy, agriculture has latterly advanced with giant strides. The number of acres in crop was as under in—

1854	-	-	54,905
1855	-	-	115,135
1856	-	-	179,983

And though the system pursued is distinguished by much of that wastefulness and imperfection which are incidental to a new country embracing a vast extent of virgin soil, yet possessing small command of labour, it can hardly be said that farming is either in a backward or a neglected state.

34. Little attention, for instance, is paid to a due rotation of crops or to manuring, from the first of the above causes, whilst from the second the land is in many cases not properly prepared nor weeded afterwards; but though high cultivation is held, from the dearth of labour, to be unprofitable, there are few countries where implemental husbandry is more followed, the best English and American machines for mowing, reaping, threshing and stacking not only being in common use, but others of colonial manufacture, which do their work even more successfully.

35. The yield per acre under such a system is higher than might be expected, and tends to prove that the land generally is of superior fertility. The crop of 1856-7 was not a heavy one, and the average produce of wheat throughout the colony was only about 24 bushels to the acre, but in the more favourable season of 1855 it exceeded 30 bushels, and the crops in the county of Talbot, near the principal gold fields, averaged,—33½ bushels, wheat; 46 bushels, oats; 6½ tons, potatoes; 2 tons, hay, which would be good yielding in any part of the world. The rich volcanic soil arising from the decomposition of the trap rocks is not, I imagine, to be surpassed in fertility, and I have seen a crop of potatoes on some of it which turned out 15 tons to the acre.

36. So far from this land being, as alleged, locked up from the public, sales during 1856 went on as briskly as in the previous year, the same quantity, 437,000 acres, being disposed of at an average of 1*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.* per acre. Nor, as the truth ought to be published on this much-debated question, can it be fairly stated that this large area went to swell the acquisitions of the Squatters under their pre-emptive right, or the speculative purchases of large capitalists; for 6837 sales, comprising 135,496 acres, were effected in lots of less than a hundred acres; and 1294 sales, comprising 286,481 acres, in lots under five hundred; 33,585 acres only being sold in lots beyond the latter size.

37. Were I to pursue this important subject further, I might perhaps be able to throw some light upon a social problem which still remains for solution; but I have already trespassed at so much length upon your time, that I must defer my remarks to a future opportunity, and here conclude my very satisfactory task so far as the Blue Book of 1856 is concerned.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) HENRY BARKLY.

## TASMANIA.

TASMANIA.

No. 32.

No. 32.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir H. E. F. YOUNG to the Right Honourable H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 81.)

Government House, Hobarton,  
July 9, 1857.

(Received September 25, 1857.)

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit the Blue Book for the year 1856.

The Population was ascertained, by a census taken on the 31st March 1857, to be 81,492, of whom 45,916 are males and 34,886 females; of these, 9,196 males and 9,062 females were inhabitants of Hobart Town, and 4,051 males and 3,823 females of Launceston.

Included in the above total population there are 690 of the military and their families.

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The total births registered in 1856 were 2,956; the deaths 1,338; the marriages 933.

*The Immigrants* at the public cost in 1856 were 1,049. The expenditure for immigration was 14,552*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* The immigrants in 1856 paying their own passages amounted to 3,939.

*The Emigrants* from the colony were 6,693. The excess of emigration over immigration was 1,705.

*Price of Provisions and Labour.*

Bread, 11*d.* the quarter loaf.

Meat, 6½*d.* per pound.

Butter, 2*s.* 4*d.* per pound.

Wheat, 13*s.* per bushel.

Domestic labour, 25*l.* to 30*l.* per annum, with board and lodging.

Prædial, the same rates.

Tradesmen, 10*s.* per diem.

*The Revenue* for the year 1856 was 415,913*l.* It included 25,787*l.* from sales and 25,477*l.* from leases of Crown lands; also 100,000*l.* repaid to the revenue by the Board of Immigration by the sale of debentures under the Act of Council, No. 18. of 19 Vict.

In July 1855 the necessity of an augmented tariff, in order to procure an increase of revenue amounting to 74,589*l.*, was represented to the then existing legislature, and at its subsequent session in November of the same year an addition to the public revenue was again represented to be urgent.

In December 1856 parliament was informed that even for the reduced expenditure the existing sources of revenue were not adequate, and the first responsible ministry submitted measures for obtaining an increased amount by additional duties of customs, and by bills to increase the rates of postage; to increase the dog tax; to raise 80,000*l.* by debentures for the service of 1856; to levy duties on property sold by auction; to levy duty upon property of deceased persons; to levy duties upon transfer of real property and shares in public companies; and to levy additional duties upon licences to exercise certain trades.

Against additional taxation, however, without a previous resort to further reduction of expenditure, the petitions to parliament were so general that all the above Bills were withdrawn, except the Debenture Bill and Dog Tax Bill, which became Acts; and the proposed increased duties of customs were not levied, but the rates of the existing tariff were continued, and are about one half of the abandoned rates; viz.

[COLLECTED UNDER ACT OF COUNCIL, 15TH VICTORIA, No. 5.]

TABLE of GOODS, WARES, and MERCHANDISE liable to DUTY on IMPORTATION.

Articles.	By Weight, Tale, or Measure.	Rates of Duty.
Brandy - - - -	Per Gallon - - - -	0 12 0
Rum and all other Spirits and Strong Waters - - - -	Ditto, and so in proportion with respect only to Spirits and Strong Waters in bottle, for any greater or less quantity than a gallon, not being less than one eighth part of a gallon - - - -	0 9 0
Wines in Wood - - - -	Ditto - - - -	0 1 0
Ditto in Bottle - - - -	Per dozen reputed Quart Bottles - - - -	0 4 0
Ditto - - - -	Ditto Pint Bottles - - - -	0 2 0
Tobacco (Snuff excepted) and Cigars - - - -	Per lb. - - - -	0 2 0
Tea - - - -	Ditto - - - -	0 0 3
Raw Sugar or Molasses - - - -	Per Cwt. - - - -	0 3 0
Refined Sugar - - - -	Ditto - - - -	0 6 0
Coffee - - - -	Per lb. - - - -	0 0 1½
Dried Fruits - - - -	Ditto - - - -	0 0 1
Hops - - - -	Ditto - - - -	0 0 2
Malt Liquors in Wood - - - -	Per Gallon - - - -	0 0 2
Ditto in Bottle - - - -	Per dozen reputed Quart Bottles - - - -	0 1 0
Ditto - - - -	Ditto Pint Bottles - - - -	0 0 6

## TABLE OF ARTICLES exempted from PAYMENT OF DUTY ON IMPORTATION.

Wines imported or purchased in Bond for the use of Regimental Messes.  
 All Articles imported for the supply of Her Majesty's Land or Sea Forces.  
 All Articles imported for the Use of Her Majesty's Government.

*The Expenditure* of 1856 was 439,708*l.* This amount includes 43,253*l.* for roads and bridges, and aids to local assessments for rural road trusts; 16,466*l.* for the judicial departments; 17,937*l.* for religious worship; 13,458*l.* for education; 10,341*l.* for conveyance of inland mails; 15,307*l.* for the survey department; and 37,149*l.* for works and buildings.

*Agriculture.*—The rain fall in Hobart Town in 1856 was 22·89 inches; the maximum of the barometer 30·325, the minimum 28·813, the mean 29·696; the maximum of the thermometer 94°, the minimum 30°, the mean 55·88°.

The number of acres under crop in 1856 is estimated at 185,556, of which 65,731 were in wheat; the live stock comprised 18,019 horses, 88,608 horned cattle, 1,674,987 sheep, and 30,074 pigs.

*The Waste Lands* sold in 1856 consisted of 10,618 acres at an average price, at public auction, of 1*l.* 0*s.* 10½*d.* per acre, and 3,954 acres of township allotments averaged 4*l.* 0*s.* 8½*d.* per acre. The lands under licence of occupancy for pastoral purposes are 2,009,477 acres. 291,522 acres are also held under a pre-emptive right of purchase at 1*l.* per acre.

*Exports and Imports.*

*The Exports* are valued at 1,207,802*l.* Of these the different kinds of grain are reckoned at 142,980*l.*; hops 10,317*l.*; timber 112,339*l.*; wool 319,961*l.*; horses 37,325*l.*

*The Imports* are valued at 1,442,106*l.* Of these 812,745*l.* came from Great Britain.

*The Tonnage inwards* was 157,826 tons, with 11,437 men and 934 vessels, of which 178 were in ballast.

*The Tonnage outwards* was about the same; the vessels were 945, of which 168 were in ballast.

*The number of Steam Vessels* registered in 1856 was 15, of a total tonnage of 3,310 tons and horse-power 846.

*There are six Lighthouses*, maintained at a cost of 3,929*l.*; the dues collected amounted to 5,514*l.*

*The Insolencies* in 1856 were 88 in number; the liabilities 172,432*l.*; the assets 67,915*l.*

*The Post Offices* and receiving houses are 97 in number; the persons employed 124; the extent of post roads 870 miles; the letters despatched to Great Britain 43,984, and the newspapers 57,546; the letters received from Great Britain 43,064; the newspapers 159,174. The local rates of postage are fourpence for inland letters not exceeding one ounce weight, and sixpence not exceeding half an ounce for sea-borne letters. The book postage is sixpence not exceeding four ounces. The rates are prepaid.

*The Schools* aided by Government are 70 in number; the average attendance in 1856 was 2628 scholars.

*Water and Gas.*

The greater number of houses in Hobart have water laid on to them. In Launceston waterworks are in progress for the supply of the town. A considerable portion of Hobart is now lighted with gas. The works belong to a private company.

*Aborigines.*

The small remnant of this race, five females and eleven males, of whom my Despatch No. 166, of November 1855 gave an account, continue as then reported to reside at Oyster Cove in D'Entrecasteaux Channel, supported by the Government, under the care of a married resident superintendent, and with occasional visits from the clergyman and magistrate of the district. I annex a vocabulary\* of the dialects of the aboriginal tribes, together with some aboriginal names of places in Tasmania.

\* Being very voluminous is not printed.

The vocabulary was drawn up by Mr. Joseph Milligan, F. L. S., and is printed as a parliamentary paper.

*General Observations.*

In addition to the statistical matter comprised in the Blue Book of 1856, and to the information which has been herein previously set forth in notes under several specific heads, it is desirable to advert to some exceedingly important and valuable natural resources of Tasmania, on the due development of which its capabilities for population and prosperity would be almost incalculably increased. I allude at present to its water supplies. The expediency of entering upon a comprehensive scheme of irrigation occurred to the local Government, and was reported on in 1843 by deputy surveyor-general Major H. C. Cotton, who had been employed in India on works of this description, as an officer of engineers in the Madras presidency. In 1843 there was convict labour at the Imperial Government depôts, without private demand for its services, and this supply was so rapidly increasing that in 1844 the Lieutenant Governor feared that unless profitable employment could be found for the convicts they would become either paupers on the British Treasury or plunderers of the colonists. A staff of surveyors, under the deputy surveyor-general, was accordingly employed to examine into the practicability of the work, and in April 1845 that officer completed the survey and report of two irrigation projects, and recommended them as the first to be entered on by the local Government; but in May 1845 the irrigation department was discontinued.

In 1846 the Lieutenant Governor represented to the then Secretary of State the inability of the colonial revenue to meet the expense of works of irrigation, and again urged that they should be authorized to be constructed by the British Government with convict labour, as a means of financial economy to the British Treasury, affording employment to numerous prisoners remaining unlired on the hands of the convict department, enhancing the value of the waste Crown lands, and accomplishing a work of acknowledged public utility. It is difficult to estimate with anything approaching to accuracy the loss which the agricultural and wool-producing interests of Tasmania have sustained by the non-execution of a comprehensive scheme of irrigation, at a time when labour was abundant, cheap, and capable of steady and continuous application under convict discipline, a loss unavoidably increased by the subsequent abeyance of the work, which was caused by the supply of labour being unable to be spared for such projects of late years, although the additional products of the land when developed by irrigation would have found so remunerative a market in the adjacent gold colony. Soon after my arrival in the colony, the natural capabilities of the island for irrigation induced me to collect together the correspondence which had taken place in 1843-6, as contained in the enclosed pamphlet\*, and it was printed and distributed in 1855 among the chief landed proprietors of the midland districts, whose properties could be the earliest benefited by irrigation.

From them came a resolution unanimously adopted at a public meeting, of their readiness to entertain favourably any scheme having for its principle, as I suggested, the effecting of the object, on a re-productive and self-supporting plan.

The moment was not, however, favourable for the formation of a local joint stock company, nor for using the credit of the colony to procure a loan for the undertaking by the Government as a public work. The then legislature was about to be displaced by a new constitution and parliament; and the first responsible ministry deemed it inexpedient at that time to add the cost of the work to the loans contemplated by the recent Public Works Loans Act; and the political changes of ministry which have since occurred have precluded that attention to the subject which it eminently deserves.

A memorandum left in Tasmania by Sir William Denison, containing the heads of a General Irrigation Act, will I trust, with alterations, be submitted to the colonial parliament in the shape of a bill.

I proceed now, from information supplied to me by Major Cotton and by Mr. Sprent, of the Survey Office, to give a general but necessarily inadequate

\* Being very voluminous is not printed.

sketch of the natural and very peculiar adaptation of Tasmania for an extensive scheme of irrigation.

The numerous rivers of the island, with few exceptions, take their rise in elevated lakes or lagoons; many of them never cease to flow; others cease to flow only in a long drought; others, again, of an inferior class, are always dry or nearly so in summer, but could be made to flow throughout the year by storing up and regulating the surplus water of the rainy season, to be drawn off in summer from reservoirs at or near their sources.

The rivers which never cease to flow are, among others, the Derwent, the Florentine, the Dee, the Huon, the Gordon, the North and South Esk, the Meander, the Ringarooma, and other streams falling to the north and west coasts.

The Derwent has a course of about 120 miles in length to Hobart Town.

The Florentine, 35 miles to its confluence with the Derwent.

The Dee, 30 miles to its junction with the Derwent.

The Huon, 100 miles to D'Entrecasteaux Channel.

The Gordon, 90 miles to Macquarie Harbour.

The North Esk, 60 miles to the River Tamar.

The South Esk, 110 miles to the Tamar.

Of the rivers which in long drought cease to flow, I specify the Ouse, 60 miles to its confluence with the Derwent; the Clyde, 50 miles to the Derwent; the Shannon, 40 miles to its junction with the Ouse; the Macquarie, 70 miles to its confluence with the Lake River; the Elizabeth, 30 miles to the Macquarie; and the Lake River, 30 miles to its junction with the South Esk.

Of the inferior rivers, always or nearly always dry in summer, but which could be made to flow throughout the year, there is the Jordan, 50 miles course to the Derwent, the Blackman, 20 miles course to the Macquarie, and the Coal River, 25 miles to Pittwater.

The principal lakes are to the westward of the main road connecting Hobart Town and Launceston. They are lakes Sorell and Crescent, the Arthurs, the Great Lake, Lake Echo, and Lake St. Clair; and this region is subject to heavy falls of snow.

To the eastward of the main road are Lake Tiberias, Dulverton Lake, and Tooms Lake.

In the western country beyond the Derwent River, in the direction of Port Davey and Macquarie Harbour, there are Lake Pedder and Lake Richmond.

Lake Sorell, about three thousand feet above the sea level, is the source of the River Clyde, and contains about twenty thousand acres, and with Lake Crescent is situate in the county of Somerset, but the waters take the direction of the counties Monmouth and Cumberland.

Arthurs Lakes, at a level of three thousand four hundred feet, the source of the Lake River, with several smaller lakes, are situated in the county of Westmoreland. The waters flow on the boundaries of that county and of Somerset. The lakes cover fifteen thousand acres.

The Great Lake, at a level of four thousand feet, at the source of the River Shannon, is also in Westmoreland. The water flows through it and Cumberland, and joins the River Derwent. It covers fifty thousand acres.

Lake Echo, at a level of three thousand feet, covers perhaps five thousand acres, and is the source of the River Dec, which joins the Derwent.

Lake St. Clair, at a level of three thousand five hundred feet, covers ten thousand acres in the county Lincoln, and is the main source of the River Derwent.

Minor lakes or lagoons exist at the head of the River Ouse and Nive.

Lake Pedder, at a level of about two thousand feet, covers two thousand five hundred acres, and gives rise to the Serpentine, a tributary of the River Gordon.

Lake Richmond, at a level of three thousand feet, is a small but deep pool at the head of the River Gordon.

Lake Tiberias, at a level of one thousand three hundred feet, is the source of the River Jordan.

Dulverton Lake is the source of the rivulet of that name which joins the Jordan.

## TASMANIA.

Tooms Lake and Long Marsh, at a level of fifteen thousand feet, are the sources of the southern branch of the River Macquarie, and give it a summer supply of water.

Kierney's Bogs, at a level of eighteen hundred feet, form an extensive flat of natural basins, and are the sources of the Elizabeth River, which passes through Campbell Town, on the main line of road.

These lakes are nearly all so formed that they may be made to retain a body of water above the level of the natural outlet.

The works commenced by Major Cotton in 1844, but never completed, were intended to spread water in artificial channels over the lands bordering on the Macquarie and Elizabeth rivers, from reservoirs draining one hundred and eighty square miles of surface, calculated to contain ninety million cubic yards of water, with channels to carry it to thirty thousand acres, and otherwise to benefit the townships of Tunbridge, Ross, and Campbell Town.

Most extensive tracts of land, well calculated for great irrigation plans, extend along the Macquarie River below the scheme last mentioned, along the Lake River, over the wide Norfolk plains and town of Longford; whilst those plains through which the South Esk flows, from above Fingal to Perth, afford facilities at least equal to those of the Upper Macquarie.

The northern branch of the Macquarie discharges at times an immense amount of water, and causes great loss of property in its lower parts; the same inconveniences are caused by the South Esk.

The north-west coast, of the island, from Port Sorell to Circular Head, is watered by numerous rivers. Of these I specify the Mersey, the Don, the Forth, the Leven, the Inglis. One of the most important branches of the Mersey flows from a minor lake or lagoon.

In the south-western part of the island, crossing the Derwent at Dunrobin Bridge, there are the Broad, the Repulse, and the before-mentioned Florentine and Gordon rivers, and lakes Pedder and Richmond.

It is reckoned that not less than two hundred thousand acres could be made available for agriculture by drainage and irrigation in this district.

I enclose a tracing which indicates the relative position of the lakes of Tasmania.

I cannot but hope that a comprehensive plan of irrigation for the practical development of the great water resources of Tasmania will ere long be entered on, either by the private enterprise of a company, or by the authority of the local parliament. The undertaking appears to be justified by the success and profit of similar public works in India. A recent English paper reports, that "the last thirteen public works for irrigation executed in Madras by the Indian Government have returned a profit of one hundred and thirty-four per cent."

#### *Legislation.*

Under the title of Legislative Council, the legislature which preceded the new constitution and its parliament had two sessions of 1855. The 1st met on the 17th July, and was ended on the 18th September by prorogation. The second re-assembled on the 28th November 1855, and was closed on the 7th February 1856.

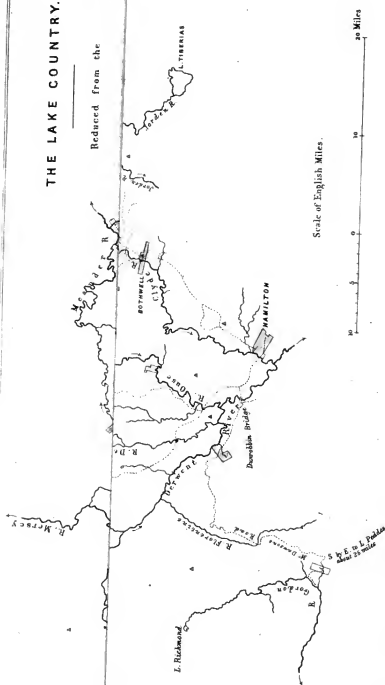
The Acts passed in these sessions were numbered from No. 1. to No. 28., and there were five unnumbered Private Acts.

I subjoin the titles of all.

- No. 1. Prisons Regulation Act.
- No. 2. Criminals Execution Act.
- No. 3. Punishment in lieu of Transportation Act.
- No. 4. Post Office Act Amendment.
- No. 5. Petty Larceny Act.
- No. 6. Offenders Control Act.
- No. 7. Jury Amendment Act.
- No. 8. Magistrates Summary Procedure Act.
- No. 9. Magistrates Criminal Procedure Act.
- No. 10. Appeals Regulation Act.
- No. 11. Magistrates Protection Act.
- No. 12. Launceston Water Act.
- No. 13. Cah Act.
- No. 14. Bathurst Street, Launceston, Act.

THE LAKE COUNTRY.

Reduced from the



Scale of English Miles.

*J. Arrowsmith, Larkes 1947.*

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- No. 15. Offences Prevention and Punishment Act.
- No. 16. Common Law Procedure Act, No. 2.
- No. 17. Name of Colony Act.
- No. 18. Immigration Commissioners Act.
- No. 19. Appropriation of Revenue Supplementary for 1855 Act.
- No. 20. Ship Post Act.
- No. 21. Shipping Masters Act.
- No. 22. Gaols Continuation Act.
- No. 23. Supreme Court Act.
- No. 24. Electoral Act.
- No. 25. Appropriation of Revenue for 1856 Act.
- No. 26. Friendly Societies Act.
- No. 27. Licensing Act Amendment.
- No. 28. Masters and Servants Act Amendment.

## PRIVATE ACTS.

- Douglas River Coal Company Act.
- Piper River Railway Act.
- Launceston Steam Navigation Act.
- Northern Tasmania Steam Navigation Act.
- Launceston Insurance Company Act.

On the 2d December 1856, commissioners, under appointment from the Governor, opened the parliament of Tasmania, the members of the House of Assembly attending at the bar of the Legislative Council; and the respective houses having severally elected a president and speaker, the Governor declared in person, in a speech, the following day, the purposes for which the parliament had been assembled.

The business of the first session of the parliament was ended on the 5th June 1857, and prorogation took place on that day.

The Acts of parliament numbered from No. 1. to No. 29., and two Private Acts unnumbered, bear the following titles:—

- No. 1. Launceston Building Act Amendment.
- No. 2. Cross and Bye Roads Act Amendment.
- No. 3. Electoral Act Amendment.
- No. 4. Electoral Rolls Continuation Act.
- No. 5. Court of Requests Jurisdiction Act.
- No. 6. Judge of Supreme Court President Act.
- No. 7. Judges' Independence Act.
- No. 8. Registrar of Births Appointment Act.
- No. 9. 80,000*l.* Debentures Act.
- No. 10. Launceston Loan Guarantee Act.
- No. 11. Census Act Amendment.
- No. 12. Insolvent Act Amendment.
- No. 13. Ordinance Officers' Powers Transfer Act.
- No. 14. Friendly Societies Act Permanent Act.
- No. 15. Customs Officers Indemnity Act.
- No. 16. Port Act, 1857.
- No. 17. Banker's Drafts Act.
- No. 18. Revenue Appropriation for Part of 1857 Act.
- No. 19. 24,000*l.* Debentures Act.
- No. 20. Public Works Loans Act.
- No. 21. Supplementary Revenue Appropriation for 1856 Act.
- No. 22. Electric Telegraphs Act.
- No. 23. Chief Police Magistrate's Duties Transference Act.
- No. 24. Testimony Perpetuating Act.
- No. 25. Bills of Lading Act.
- No. 26. Stipendiary Magistrates' Jurisdiction Abolition Act.
- No. 27. Penalties Distribution Act.
- No. 28. Jury Act Amendment.
- No. 29. Settled Estates Leases and Sales Act.

## PRIVATE ACTS.

- Hobart Town Gas Company Act Amendment.
- Ilfracombe Saw Mills and Railway Company Act.

## TASMANIA.

The first responsible ministry of Tasmania resigned office in February. Their successors resigned in April, when the present ministry took office.

The first ministry comprised Messieurs Champ, colonial secretary, member of the House of Assembly for Launceston; Francis Smith, attorney-general, member of the House of Assembly for Hobart Town; J. W. Rogers, solicitor-general, member of the House of Assembly for Launceston; T. D. Chapman, colonial treasurer, member of the House of Assembly for Hobart Town; and W. Nairn, member of the Legislative Council without office.

The second ministry included Mr. Thomas G. Gregson, colonial secretary, member of the House of Assembly for Richmond; Mr. J. C. Gregson, attorney-general, member of the House of Assembly for Longford; Mr. Charles Meredith, colonial treasurer, member of the House of Assembly for Glamorgan; Mr. Maxwell Miller, member of the House of Assembly for Hobart Town, without office; Mr. J. H. Wedge, member of the Legislative Council for Morven, without office; Mr. James Whyte, member of the Legislative Council for Pembroke, without office.

The third ministry includes Mr. W. P. Weston, member of the Legislative Council for Longford, premier without office; Mr. William Henty, colonial secretary, member of the Legislative Council for the Tamar, Mr. Francis Smith, attorney-general, member of the House of Assembly for Fingal; Mr. Thomas John Knight, solicitor-general (not re-elected member of the Legislative Council for the Huon); Mr. F. M. Innes, colonial treasurer, member of the House of Assembly for Morven; Mr. R. G. Kermode, member of the House of Assembly for Ringwood, without office; and Mr. John Walker, member of the Legislative Council for Hobart Town, without office.

The House of Assembly consists of thirty members, returned by twenty-four electoral districts; the Legislative Council of fifteen members, returned by twelve electoral districts.

The qualification of a voter for a member of the House of Assembly is a freehold of 100*l.*, a household of 10*l.* per annum, or leasehold of three years of 10*l.* per annum, or salary of 100*l.* per annum, or graduate of university, or barrister, or solicitor, or minister of religion, or officer, or retired officer of army or navy, resident in the district of the vote for 12 months prior to writ for election. The qualification of a voter for the Legislative Council is freehold estate of annual value of 50*l.*, or graduate of university, barrister, solicitor, medical practitioner, minister of religion, officer, naval or military, or retired from service, and resident as in the former case. There is no property qualification required of a member of either house.

The Legislative Councillors determine by lot the order in which they are to stand on the roll. At the expiry of three years five members being the first on roll retire, to be replaced by five new members, and five others retire every succeeding three years in the same order, to be replaced by new members. The members of the Assembly are elected for five years.

Both houses of parliament are elected by ballot, and there are enactments defining and punishing "bribery," "treating," "undue influence," and "refreshment of meat, drink, or entertainment or money," to voters on day of nomination or polling.

Candidates and agents may make necessary payments before day of election. Account thereof to be made by election auditor.

On the day of nomination, if there be only the same number of candidates proposed as there are vacancies, the returning officer shall declare such to be duly elected, and make his return accordingly. If a poll be demanded by not less than six electors, it shall take place at the polling places on the day appointed in the writ, not being less than four or more than six days from the nomination.

The following are the ballot papers to be used at election of members for the Legislative Council and House of Assembly respectively.

*(Queen's Arms.)*

BALLOT PAPER to be used at the ELECTION of a MEMBER of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

*Directions for use.*

The voter is to take this paper into the inner room, and there immediately to strike through in ink the names of the candidates for whom he does not intend to vote. But he must be careful, if only one member is to be returned for the district, not to leave

more than the name of one candidate not struck through; and if there be more than one member to be returned for such district, he does not leave the names of more candidates not struck out than there are members to be returned for such electoral district.

*N.B.—If this direction be not attended to the ballot paper will be invalid.*

The voter must not take this paper out of the room in which he receives it, excepting into the inner room, where he is entitled to strike through the candidates' names in secrecy; and neither the returning officer nor other person is entitled to approach him whilst he is so striking through the candidates' names. Immediately the candidates' names are struck through, the voter is to put this paper into the ballot-box, and whilst he is so doing no person is to approach him.

Any voter guilty of unnecessary delay in filling up this ballot-paper will be subject to the penalties of a misdemeanor.

*Clerk of the Peace.*

*Returning Officer for the Electoral District of*

*[Here the candidates' names will be written or printed in alphabetical order, and numbered in figures in regular succession.]*

*(Queen's Arms.)*

BALLOT PAPER to be used at the ELECTION of a MEMBER of the HOUSE of ASSEMBLY.

*Directions for use.*

The voter is to take this paper into the inner room, and there immediately to strike through in ink the names of the candidates for whom he does not intend to vote. But he must be careful, if only one member is to be returned for the district, not to leave more than the name of one candidate not struck through; and if there be more than one member to be returned for such district, he does not leave the names of more candidates not struck out than there are members to be returned for such electoral district.

*N.B.—If this direction be not attended to the ballot paper will be invalid.*

The voter must not take this paper out of the room in which he receives it, excepting into the inner room, where he is entitled to strike through the candidates' names in secrecy; and neither the returning officer nor other person is entitled to approach him whilst he is so striking through the candidates' names. Immediately the candidates' names are struck through, the voter is to put this paper into the ballot box, and whilst he is so doing no person is to approach him.

Any voter guilty of unnecessary delay in filling up this ballot paper will be subject to the penalties of a misdemeanor.

*Clerk of the Peace.*

*Returning Officer for the Electoral District of*

*[Here the Candidates Names will be written or printed in alphabetical order, and numbered in figures in regular succession.]*

I have to add that the system of vote by ballot has proved economical and most satisfactory.

The houses of the colonial parliament being both elective, their relative rights in the appropriation of revenue, and generally in money bills, have given rise to difference of opinion the settlement of which has not yet been finally concluded.

The 33d clause of the Constitutional Act provides that money bills shall originate in the House of Assembly, and that it shall not be lawful for the said House of Assembly to originate or pass any money vote unless recommended by the Governor.

*Transportation.*

The Legislative Council presented an address against the revival of transportation to Australia and its dependencies in December 1856, and the House of Assembly did so also in April 1857. Both addresses were respectively transmitted to Downing Street with my Despatches No. 5.\* of the 19th January and No. 63.\* of the 12th May 1857.

In August 1855, by the local Act No. 3. of 19 Vict., penal servitude was substituted in Tasmania in lieu of transportation. Prisoners were then subjected to fixed terms of penal servitude; and the system of "passes" and "tickets of

\* Vide Papers on Convict Discipline presented by Command, August 1857, pages 88 and 90.

## TASMANIA.

of lenve was ended as respects offenders sentenced within the colony from that date.

The question of how it was that transportation to New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land once for a time answered well, and then became, as it now continues, intolerable to both colonies, would open up a very wide field of inquiry, and render necessary a consideration of very conflicting views which have been held even by the same persons in Australia at different times.

Unnecessary as it is now to revert in detail to the past history of the system, it is still expedient, wherever else beyond Australian transportation may be carried, to bear in mind that a supply of convict labour becomes obnoxious when it competes with free labour, or from moderate proportions swells into a glut, and that the main object of secondary punishment, the conversion of former offenders into useful members of society, was on the whole best attained in Australia by the plan known as the "assignment system."

Transportation can never in all probability in any case be more than a temporary policy, protracted or abridged by discretion in meeting out the supply, its description, and the slower or quicker progress of a free population.

*Convict Department.*

The willingness of Her Majesty's Government to transfer the Convict Department to the Colonial Government, on adjustment of future payments in a mode prescribed in Despatch of No. 56 of 4th May 1856, was notified to the local parliament on 3d December 1856, but no intention to accept the transfer has been expressed. My Despatch No. 91. of the 15th July and No. 114. of the 16th August 1856 reported that the Imperial expenditure for this service for the year 1857-58, as contrasted with that of the year 1856-57, showed a reduction of 30,328*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.*, and that with a reduction in the number of convicts of five thousand six hundred and seventy-one, in the eighteen months preceding the 30th June 1856, there had also been a reduction in the official establishment of two magistrates, three superintendents, five chaplains, four medical officers, twelve clerks, and one hundred and forty-two subordinate officers.

The number of convicts on the 30th June 1856 was 6,047, and the discipline officers in no case exceeded the proportion of one officer to twenty-five convicts, a proportion originally sanctioned by the Secretary of State.

The number of convicts on the 31st December 1856 was 5,421; viz. 3,871 gaining their own livelihood, and maintained by Government 1,550. Nine executions took place in Tasmania in 1856. Of these six were prisoners of the Crown at the time of trial, and three were free by expiry of servitude.

*Railways.*

In August 1856, Mr. Sprent of the Survey Office made a preliminary survey of the country for a branch line of railway between Launceston, Morven, Perth, Longford, Carrick, Westbury, and Deloraine; a distance in all of 42 miles, including ten miles of the projected main trunk line from Hobart Town to Launceston. This last larger project of a railway of 120 miles to connect the two chief towns of the island was adverted to in my Blue Book Report of the year 1855.

The small branch line to which I now advert would pass through a country presenting but little engineering difficulty.

The general character of the soil along the whole of the proposed branch line is agricultural. Between Launceston and Morven, ten miles, there is very rich land at present under cultivation.

The properties are let in small farms. The soil is a rich black loam. The rocks are of the trap families; no sandstone, but good clay for building. Between Morven and Perth the line would pass for four miles over a low range of the same character, partly cultivated and partly under pasture, but fit for anything.

Between Perth and the crossing of the South Esk River the land is for four miles of a more varied kind, chiefly under pasture, but suitable also for agriculture. From the South Esk to Carrick, a distance of five miles and a half, there is a large extent of fine arable land lying in the direction of Bishopsbourne, Carrick, &c.

The produce is now considerable, and must increase rapidly.

Between Carrick and Westbury, a distance of nine miles, on both sides of the line, there is a still larger extent of country available for agriculture. The south side would include the fine lands watered by the Liffey stream and the Long Swamp, while the north side would comprehend the extensive country on the north side of the Meander River.

In the portion between Westbury and Deloraine, nine miles and a half, the country is not so flat, but the soil is of the very best description, and is found to retain this character from the lower grounds even to considerable elevations.

Beyond Deloraine there is much good land on the Upper Meander River, the Dairy Rivulet, Lobster Rivulet, Chudleigh, and the country on the north side of the road to the westward.

There is lime of the best quality in great abundance in this neighbourhood.

The whole line passes through trap rocks, and their concomitants. Sandstone is rarely present; sand was not observed, and gravel occasionally.

The line is through private property, and timber in several places at easy distances from the line. The Crown lands with timber are distant and difficult of access, except at Westbury and Deloraine.

The estimated population through which the proposed line of branch railway would pass, viz. Launceston, Morven, Perth, Longford, Carrick, Westbury, and Deloraine, is 26,000. The land under crop 79,110 acres; the uncultivated land 1,198,559 acres.

The exports at Launceston in 1856 are valued at 532,567*l.*; the imports for the same period at 467,749*l.*

A public meeting was recently held at Deloraine, and resolutions were unanimously adopted in favour of the proposed line of railway, as one which would yield a liberal rate of interest on its cost, and prove of essential service to the districts.

The present traffic is estimated (at the rates the railway will probably charge) to be 40,000*l.* per annum, the supposed rates being 4*d.* per bushel for wheat, 3*d.* per bushel for barley and oats, and 10*s.* a ton for potatoes, garden produce, wool, butter and cheese, hay, merchandise, and 4*s.* each passenger.

#### Gold Fields.

In my last annual report mention was made of an expenditure of public money for the purpose of examining places in Tasmania which geology and experience indicated as probably auriferous. The report of the exploration has been published in the local Government Gazette, and is herewith enclosed.

The result is that, neither surfacing nor deep deposits of a rich character have been discovered, nevertheless several practical results, more or less valuable, have been attained. 1st, the distribution of gold has been traced over a large extent of country. 2ndly, Attention has been directed to the quartz reefs or veins which interlace the slate rocks. Insufficient machinery has been employed by a private company in crushing quartz without satisfactory result.

The police magistrate in the Fingal district reports that from the 28th June to the 27th December 1856 the actual yield of the diggings has been 259 ounces 6 pennyweights. This aggregate was collected at the periods and in the amounts specified below, viz.

	oz.	dwt.
June - - - -	3	10
July - - - -	10	10
" - - - -	5	15
" - - - -	7	0
" - - - -	7	10
August - - - -	5	0
" - - - -	7	0
" - - - -	8	10
" - - - -	5	5
" - - - -	9	15
September - - - -	9	10
" - - - -	11	2
" - - - -	6	0
" - - - -	9	0

## TASMANIA.

		oa.	dwa.
October	- - -	12	15
"	- - -	11	3
"	- - -	12	16
"	- - -	10	10
November	- - -	28	15
"	- - -	19	10
"	- - -	7	10
"	- - -	12	0
"	- - -	10	0
December	- - -	7	0
"	- - -	5	0
"	- - -	13	0
"	- - -	4	10

With my Despatches Nos. 89. of the 3d July and 106. of the 14th August 1856, I transmitted reports of a brief visit of the Reverend W. B. Clarke, the geologist, to Tasmania from Sydney.

*Port Frederick on the River Mersey.*

Within the last three years a population of 1,500 persons is reported to have settled around this district, which includes the River Don. About 25,000l. have been invested in land; 4,000 or 5,000 acres are cultivated; three steam mills are at work, besides a flour mill for horse-power, and there are five licensed inns, one brewery, and 10 stores.

Coal is raised from four pits, the average yield being 1,000 tons per month. Vessels varying from 100 to 400 tons frequent the port. The steamer "Titania" calls there regularly en route along the north-west coast from Launceston to Circular Head. There is a police magistrate and some constables, a school under the board of education, and divine service twice every Sunday.

Lines of tramway to the coal pits and steam saw mills have been laid down to an aggregate extent of seventeen miles. The land is good, covered with fine timber, and possesses lime and iron ore, besides coal.

Port Frederick has been recently declared a port of entry, which will thus enable imports and exports to take place direct from and to the most favourable market, whether at Launceston or Melbourne.

*Whaling.*

There are twenty-eight vessels, of an aggregate tonnage of five thousand five hundred and seventy-six tons, with eighty-four boats, and six hundred and thirty men, employed in the whaling trade of Tasmania at the present time.

In 1842, after twenty years of success in "bay whaling," whales became shy of approaching the land of Tasmania, and the enterprise since then has been conducted in sea-going vessels of about three hundred tons. The whaling ground in the winter is off the coast of New Zealand, particularly in the direction of the Chatham islands; and in summer on the south coast of Tasmania.

In 1841 the port of Hobart Town was a rendezvous for foreign whaling vessels, and within the last few weeks three foreign whalers have visited it, reporting a scarcity of whales in the North Pacific. The coast of Tasmania is reckoned to be swept by one hundred whaling vessels from foreign countries.

The ports of Tasmania are free ports to foreign whaling vessels, with the exception of pilotage at Hobart Town, which is, however, not compulsory, but available or not, at the option of the foreigner.

Nearly the whole of the Tasmanian whalers occasionally frequent Port Davey. In the month of November 1856 fourteen whaling vessels were there at anchor together. It is much resorted to as a safe and commodious port for vessels of any size, when wood and water are obtainable, and being uninhabited temptations to the desertion of crews do not exist.

Since January 1856 over eight hundred tons of sperm oil have been landed by Tasmanian vessels. Black oil is seldom procured.

The shipping master at Hobart Town reports that "the native born youths of Tasmania evince great aptitude as whalers, and that it invariably happens on their return that they understand most of the duties of ordinary seamen,

"steering excepted. Whaling as an employment for men previously ignorant of anything connected with a ship has been attended with extremely beneficial results. Able-bodied landmen, such as farm labourers, are well adapted for pulling."

With the view of encouraging the study of navigation by Tasmanian youths a prize of ten pounds is to be given at the central school in Hobart Town to the boy who has made the greatest proficiency in the study of navigation, and who engages to apprentice himself to a whaler.

#### *Federation.*

The suggestion of a federal assembly for the Australian colonies has been submitted, in a letter dated 11th April 1857, from the honorary secretary of an association, transmitting to the local Government the copy of a memorial addressed to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Some of the matters mentioned in this memorial as suitable to be disposed of in a federal assembly, to originate in an Act of the Imperial Parliament granting permissive power to the colonies to form or join such a federation, are practically and amicably adjusting themselves, without waiting for or needing other than local intervention.

I allude to "lighthouses and beacons," in which there is a common interest to inter-colonial mails, and to the connection of the colonies by electric telegraph.

On the first two points commissioners from the principal Australian colonies were assembled at Melbourne in 1856-57, with satisfactory results; and the Government of Victoria and Tasmania have already agreed to defray the cost of a submarine electric cable across Bass' Straits, which will connect Tasmania with the inland lines of telegraph in Australia now in progress of construction from Adelaide and Sydney to Melbourne.

There is already established in this island a line of electric telegraph between Hobart Town and Launceston.

As respects an inter-colonial tariff, the opening up of the navigation and commerce of the River Murray for two thousand miles during a great part of every ordinary year, and the probable additional equal length of the navigable tributaries of that river, render the establishment of a common tariff for South Australia, New South Wales, and Victoria a subject of such great convenience and emergency that its adjustment became very early a subject of mutual negotiation, which is now drawing to a satisfactory close. That which the memorialists term "the clumsy contrivance" at first adopted of collecting the river duties at the sea mouth of the river, according to the tariff of South Australia, and dividing them among the treasures of the colonies on the banks of which the articles were landed for consumption, was, I think, under the circumstances, a very natural expedient, and obviated the vexation and delays of custom houses on the river banks of Victoria and New South Wales, and it has most probably hastened the substitution of that better system of equality between the three colonies which will provide a scale of duties common to all, by enactment of the legislature of each colony.

The island of Tasmania is not, however, necessarily so interested in the tariff question as are contiguous colonies, and the state of its revenue will probably influence the time when its tariff shall be assimilated to that of the others in Australia.

As respects also a common court of appeal for all Australia, there can be no question that when the advantage of it shall be recognized by the parliament of each colony local legislation will follow with its sanction.

When, however, regard is had to the reluctance with which eligible persons to be members of parliament are drawn, even within their own colony, to give their gratuitous services to the legislature, the creation of a federal assembly which would require of course the majority of its members to quit their own colony, and absent themselves from their local pursuits and interests, is a measure which it would be expedient for the Imperial Parliament to abstain from originating unless moved to do so by the unanimous addresses of all the local parliaments.

As yet the subject has not engaged the attention of the responsible ministry of Tasmania.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. E. F. YOUNG.

TASMANIA.

Enclosure in No. 32.

Encl. in No. 32.

REPORT of the FINGAL GOLD EXPLORATION COMMITTEE, 11th December 1856.

*Government Notice.*

No. 86.

Colonial Secretary's Office, 18th June 1857.

THE Governor directs the following letter and report from the Fingal Exploration Committee to be published for general information.

By His Excellency's Command,

WILLIAM HENRY.

Fingal Gold Exploration Committee, Hobart Town,  
11th December 1856.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to enclose the report of the above committee with reference to the disposal of the Government grant of 2,000*l.* in aid of the development of a working gold field at Fingal.

I am also instructed by this committee to call your especial attention to the extract from the report annexed; and to add their earnest hope that Government may be pleased to take such steps as may be deemed requisite to carry the expedition recommended by the committee into immediate effect.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Geo. WHITCOMB, Hon. Secretary.

To W. T. N. Champ, Esq.,  
Colonial Secretary.

*Fingal Gold Exploration Committee.*

## Committee:

T. D. Chapman, Esq.  
W. Crooke, Esq.  
A. Macnaughtan, Esq.  
A. H. Manning, Esq.  
W. E. Nairn, Esq.

R. P. Stuart, Esq.  
George Stevenson, Esq.  
L. Roope, Esq.  
G. Whitcomb, Esq.

The above committee appointed at a public meeting of the Inhabitants of Hobart Town, held the 29th May 1856 (with the exception of Messrs. Nairn and Stuart, who were named by the Government), to dispose of the Government grant of 2,000*l.* in aid of the discovery of a workable gold field in Tasmania, beg to lay before the public the following report of their proceedings.

In the early part of the year 1852 attention was directed to the neighbourhood of Fingal by the report of gold having been found on Crown land held by Mr. Grant of Tullochgorum. This circumstance appears to have excited considerable interest at the time, the then recent discovery of gold in Victoria encouraging the hope of a gold field also in this island. The value of such a discovery was, however, but inadequately appreciated, and though several parties who were preparing to cross the channel were attracted to the ground, their stay was too brief, and their labour too scanty, fairly to ascertain the gold bearing worth of the place. The rapid development of the rich fields of Victoria, and the certainty of labour being well rewarded there, speedily withdrew all parties from Fingal, and, for some months, little or nothing was heard of the supposed Tasmanian gold field.

Two years ago, about the time of the Macquarie Harbour expedition, Launceston sent a party of men to work upon Specimen Hill, and in the gullies round the Nook. No satisfactory result was arrived at, and though a few men continued from that time to work in Major's Gully, the Hospital Gully, and one or two other localities, and gold in small quantities was obtained, the country generally remained unexplored. In May of this year it was announced that his Excellency, yielding to the solicitations of the community of the colony, represented by some of the principal merchants of Launceston and Hobart Town, had consented to the appropriation of 2,000*l.* from the public treasury for the purpose of a more thorough exploration of the country in the neighbourhood of Fingal, it being deemed in the highest degree desirable that the question, whether or not Tasmania afforded a paying gold field, should (so far as the locality of Fingal was concerned) if possible be finally settled.

The disposal of this sum having been entrusted to this committee (who, it was understood, would act in concert with a similar committee at Launceston), stores, tools, and the other requisites for the work were purchased accordingly. Practical diggers were



invited by advertisement to proceed to the diggings, where they were to be supplied, on certain conditions, with tents and rations, and a superintendent and storekeeper appointed.

On Monday, 23d June, the gratuitous distribution of rations commenced; and from that date to the end of November the average number of men employed in the neighbourhood of Fingal and at the Black Boy may be estimated at 70 per week, inclusive of those who provided their own outfit.

The following return will show the average for each month of men rationed gratuitously, and working under the superintendence of the committee:—

1856.	July	-	-	-	70 Rations weekly.
	August	-	-	-	74 "
	September	-	-	-	69 "
	October	-	-	-	48 "
	November	-	-	-	32 "

At the outset all the men on the ground were included on the committee's list; but many have gradually withdrawn, preferring to work in the gullies which had been prospected, and whose value has therefore been ascertained.

The object of the expedition being rather to explore than to work upon ground previously known to be gold yielding, the men have been required to spread themselves as much as practicable through the country, and have received rations only on the understanding that they should betake themselves to the proper work of prospecting. This has been especially the case since the beginning of September, hence the numbers on the free list have been constantly diminishing, while the number of men working for themselves in gullies already opened has proportionately increased.

In summing up the amount of work actually done by the diggers who have been rationed from the committee's stores, it is not easy to make such a statement as will convey a correct and adequate notion of it, except to those who are personally acquainted with the ground, and can appreciate the numerous difficulties which have impeded the operations.

In addition to the gullies Major's, Harrison's, and Sharkie's, and the side of Specimen Hill, all previously known to contain gold, but now more completely opened, many other gullies within a circle from the Nook of five or six miles' radius have been examined; but, out of nearly twenty gullies partially opened, only one has been found to yield gold in such quantities as to enable it to rank with the older diggings, and that is called "Peter's Gully," about two miles nearer the township of Fingal than Major's Creek. Everywhere else, with but one or two exceptions, traces of gold are found, though but a few specks to a dishful of earth.

In July a small party of men were despatched to the Black Boy Flat, near the junction of the South Esk and the Tyne rivers. Attention was first directed to this neighbourhood by the report that Mr. Adam Sutherland had there found a good prospect. The men were to have located along the skirt of the tiers running north and north by east of the Tower Hill.

For some time their labour was but slightly productive, but towards the end of August the promises of success became more cheering. A stratum of earth lying but two or three feet beneath the surface was found, which for several weeks yielded so well that hopes were entertained of a good lead of gold, a rich alluvial deposit being at length discovered. These hopes led to the reinforcement of the party at the Black Boy; and during the months of September and October there were from 35 to 40 men working on that ground. The original promise was, however, unfulfilled; and though every endeavour was made to trace the course of the supposed deposit, and to discover any similar deposits that might exist in the gullies emptying themselves in the flat, the labour was unsuccessful. At first the abundance of surface water made sinking in most places impossible; and when the dry weather set in, the entire absence of water, except at a very considerable distance from the place of work, rendered washing extremely difficult. Hence from two opposite but inevitable causes the labours of the men were impeded, and at length, from the unproductive character of all the ground that it was found practicable to open, it was deemed advisable to abandon the Flat altogether. The final removal of this party was not, however, effected until the eastern flank of the Flower Hill tiers, extending from the Black Boy to the Hospital Gully, about 15 miles, had been to some extent prospected. The result, unfortunately, has been no more satisfactory than in the case of the gullies on the western flank around the Nook.

In fine, it may be said that the whole system of tiers radiating from the Tower Hill as a centre, excepting those spurs which run between west and north, have been more or less explored. The chief impediments during the three first months of the exploration were the superabundance of water, and the difficulty of supplying rations and conveying implements to the outlying parties.

Extensive as the examination of the country has really been, it cannot be pronounced complete and conclusive; many places, which from their geological character are unquestionably the most likely to contain rich deposits of gold, having been of necessity left untouched. Such are some of the deep beds of drift gravel and boulders which mark the channels of the ancient watercourses. These are found in the bottoms of the larger

## TASMANIA.

gullies, and might doubtless be traced far into the flats through which the South Esk River winds. The opening of these beds would require a larger body of men, and more effective and costly implements, than the committee, with the means at command, were able to furnish. Where sinking has been practicable, that is, chiefly on the sides of the gullies and in the higher parts of the bottom, holes have been carried down, varying in depth from 12 feet to 50 feet; but as such sinking was, from the very nature of prospecting work, for the most part purely conjectural, and as the men were unable, from lack of the necessary machinery, to carry down their shafts in many spots, which, judging by the analogy of other diggings, would prove most probably productive, the yield of gold from these holes has, with a few exceptions, been unremunerative. Occasionally a patch of ground has been hit upon from which a few ounces of granular shotty gold have been obtained. These instances of success have stimulated the flagging hopes of the men, and led to a further exploring of the promising locality, with a view to striking and tracing the lead, if such should be there; but hitherto such hopes have issued in disappointment. There has, however, always been a sufficient amount of success to encourage the best and most experienced diggers to persevere in the search. Though no rich prizes have been obtained, and though the product has not been large enough, on the average, to recompense the labour, yet the prospects have for the most part continued so good as to prove a steady stimulus to hope of eventual success.

Alternating between elation and disappointment, the best section of the committee's men have persisted for five months with a constancy meriting a better reward.

In estimating the actual yield of these diggings since June last, we must distinguish between the two elements of fact and conjecture. For the former, the following return of gold purchased by the committee's superintendent may be relied on as correct:—

*Fingal, the Nook and Neighbourhood.*

			ozs.	dwt.	grs.	ozs.	dwt.	grs.
July and August	-	-	-	25	12	13		
September	-	-	-	25	1	22		
October	-	-	-	26	5	12		
November	-	-	-	27	10	0		
						104	9	23

*Black Boy Flat.*

August	-	-	-	4	15	0		
September	-	-	-	10	16	1		
						15	11	1
Total	-	-	-	120	1	0		

The quantity of gold otherwise disposed of may be moderately estimated at one fourth of the entire product, which would give one third more than that sold to the superintendent, that is, 40 ounces, making the entire amount for the five months 160 ounces. This latter item is of course little more than conjectural; but there is every reason to think that it is rather below than over the truth.

Considering the unfavourable season (an unusually severe one) at which the exploration was commenced, the unavoidable deficiency in means and appliances, the uncertainty and insufficiency of honorary labour, and the necessary contingency of prospecting operations, this gross amount cannot be regarded as otherwise than encouraging. True, but a small average remuneration is shown; but it should be borne in mind that the purpose of this expedition was not so much to obtain gold where it was known to exist, as to examine those untried places which geology and experience indicate as probably auriferous. The discovery, not the development, of gold-yielding ground is the true province of an exploring party such as that recently at work; and how far this discovery has really extended can only be ascertained by future enterprise. Disappointment may, indeed, be felt by many that none of the party have, by felicitous accident, stumbled upon surfacing or deep deposits rich as those developed in Victoria or New South Wales; but, notwithstanding their failure in this respect, it is undeniable that several practical results, more or less valuable, have been attained. Some of these may be glanced at.

1. The distribution of gold has been traced over a much larger extent of country, so that the area for future enterprise is materially widened. In the vicinity of Avoca, along the gullies skirting the South Esk towards Fingal, among the spurs of the Tower Hill, and in the creeks which come down both from the Tower and from Ben Lomond, also on the eastern bank of the Esk, and behind Mount Nicholas near the head of the Scamander, and thence northward through the entire country bordered by the Bay of Fires, the existence of gold has been ascertained.

2. The character of the ground is now known; and, hereafter, diggers who may essay a trial will be guided by the experience acquired during the last five months. In the gullies already opened no leads of alluvial gold are found; but under beds of drift gravel and stones, loose or cemented with hard clay, the gold is generally distributed. Every-

where around the Nook, it is from the fissures and cavities which abound over the broken surface of the bottom rock that the heaviest gold is obtained. From the nature of the ground it lies in "patches;" and occasionally such patches, though but of small extent, have been found to contain a comparatively large proportion of gold. The main chance of success would appear to be in the casual discovery of these rich spots; and it is not unlikely that, as the ground is further opened, that larger and richer spots will be laid bare. On the Black Boy Flat the ground is of a different description; there, immediately below the super-soil, are seams of a gravelly clay, presenting the varied tints of red and brown, and penetrated by small seams of a darker hue; these overlie a pipeclay, in some places white, in others yellow or tinged with blue. Another bed upon a slate of a soft texture and irregular grain, but much bluer and of a finer quality than the coarse slaty rock which forms the staple of the hill nearer Fingal. But not only have men been taught to choose the sites of work, but they are now better informed as to the implements and apparatus necessary for the successful prosecution of the work. If these parts of the gold fields already known are to be advantageously developed, there must be a freer speculation in plant and labour. There appears reason to believe, as in the case of analogous diggings, that the judicious application of capital would issue in an abundant recompense; but with only the primitive appliances of pick, shovel, tub, and cradle, men cannot expect, except most fortuitously, more than a precarious livelihood, unless a large accession of labourers should lead to happier discoveries.

3. Attention has been directed to the quartz reefs or veins which interlace the slate rocks of the neighbourhood. The small reef on Specimen Hill, from which the largest number of specimens have been taken, has been well opened on one side. Upon this the insufficient machinery of the Launceston Crushing Company has been chiefly employed, but without satisfactory result. It was not the function of the exploration party to develop these reefs, but simply to ascertain their existence and extent. These are found to be inexhaustible, and may yet realize the highest expectations.

The reef upon which the largest amount of labour has been bestowed is that in Grant's Gully, known as Seiden's Reef. A shaft has been carried down about 130 feet, the workmen being for a time assisted from the committee's stores, and afterwards sustained by private capital; but it is to be regretted that lack of means has compelled the men to abandon for a time their enterprise. The upper side of the reef has been exposed to a very considerable depth, but its auriferous capacity remains unproved. Let any portion of these reefs eventually prove remunerative, and from their number and extent it may confidently be predicted that they will in the course of years become a source of almost boundless wealth to the colony.

Specimens from several of these quartz veins have been sent to Sydney for analysis there, as also specimens of quartz from Macquarie Harbour, Port Davey, and the neighbourhood of the Frenchman's Cap; and in every piece of quartz tested gold has been found.

The specimens from the neighbourhood of the Frenchman's Cap were picked up by Mr. Calder and Dr. Crowther in their geological search in that locality in the summer of 1852 or 1853; and although no gold was visible in any of the pieces even through a microscope, yet the yield of gold in one of them was found to be at the rate of thirteen ounces to the ton.

The neighbourhood of the Frenchman's Cap was long since pointed out by the Rev. W. B. Clarke as the place most likely to contain the richest deposit of gold in Tasmania; and, considering how prophetic many of the conjectures of that gentleman with regard to several gold fields in New South Wales afterwards turned out, the committee earnestly recommend that an expedition to the locality of the Frenchman's Cap should be at once set on foot; and would further add, that, in their opinion, no more fitting person could be found to conduct it than Mr. Calder, who has already visited that part of the colony, and who is in many other respects eminently qualified for the mission.

The information contained in the greater part of this report is given as furnished by the committee's superintendent at Fingal, Mr. W. L. Horton, of whose meritorious exertions in the performance of his duties the committee desire to express their entire approval.

The operations under the control of the committee will close at the end of the present month, when as soon after as practicable an account of the disbursements of the 2000*l.* granted will be made up for publication.

By order of the committee,

GEORGE WHITCOMB, Hon. Secretary.

Hobart Town, 11th December 1856.

SOUTH  
AUSTRALIA.

No. 33.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

No. 33.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir R. G. MacDONNELL to the Right Honourable H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 186.)

Government House, Adelaide,  
October 15, 1857.

(Received January 15, 1858.)

SIR,

1. I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book for 1856, and it affords me very great satisfaction to refer to it, and the other documents accompanying it, as convincingly proving the steady onward progress of this colony in all the elements of substantial and permanent prosperity.

2. I received the Blue Book so late in the year, and it was also so late before some returns could be prepared which I had been anxious to transmit, that, although some of those returns have not yet reached me, I shall no longer defer transmitting the Blue Book, reserving for the present the remarks which I had intended offering on many topics connected with the past history and present prospects of this province. I shall, however, draw your attention now to some of the most prominent features in the Blue Book, and the statistical returns which I transmit with it.

Encl. 1 in No. 33.

*Population.*

3. The increase under this head is most satisfactory,—the total population at the end of 1856 being computed to have amounted to 104,708 souls,—that is, more than quadruple the population of ten years previously, when the number was under 26,000, whilst it also consists of males and females more nearly balanced than in any other of the Australian colonies, the numbers being:—

Males.	Females.
53,086	51,622

It may be useful here to compare in this respect the relative proportions of the sexes in South Australia and the adjoining colonies. I shall therefore do so, and in referring to the comparative statistics of New South Wales, Victoria, and Tasmania, I wish it to be understood that I derive my information from the most authentic source, viz., from tables which have been obligingly furnished to me by the Governors of those colonies.

4. The following table of the population of New South Wales and South Australia at the close of 1856, and of Victoria and Tasmania in March of the present year, will prove the accuracy of the above statement as to the proportion of the sexes here:—

—	New South Wales.	Victoria.	South Australia.	Tasmania.
Males - - -	161,882	260,910	53,086	45,916
Females - - -	124,991	145,667	51,622	34,886
Total - - -	286,873	406,577	104,708	80,802

Thus it appears that out of a total population of 104,708 there was only an excess of 1,464 males, a small number when it is remembered how many must be employed as stockmen, shepherds, &c., &c., and in occupations which are often necessarily followed in distant and unsettled districts by persons most of whom are unincumbered by families.

5. Whilst the agricultural occupations of a large proportion of the inhabitants of this colony are more favourable to the settlement of families than the gold fields of Victoria, there is no doubt that the existence of the latter within a distance not difficult of access from this colony has a tendency to draw hence

any redundant male population. That tendency should therefore be kept in view in determining the character of the Government immigration to this province. You will observe that in 1851, there was a serious disparity between the sexes here as well as in the adjacent colonies,—there being then only 26,800 females to 39,738 males, or 40 per cent. females of the whole population; whilst in the following year, in consequence of the gold discoveries opening up in the interior, a new field of enterprise especially inviting to one sex, the numbers were 32,353 females to 36,310 males, or 47 per cent. females of the total population.

6. In 1855 the sexes became more nearly equalized, males 48,610, females 48,342, and during one period of that year it is probable that in consequence of the introduction of 7,357 assisted female immigrants, there was actually an excess of females over males, an occurrence wholly unprecedented in these colonies.

7. During 1856, the births were 4,488, and the deaths 1,147, being an excess of births over deaths of 3,341. Full particulars as to the causes of death are given in the enclosed annual report of the Registrar General, from which you will observe that the large number of 490 deaths out of the total 1,147 were children under one year of age.

#### *Immigration.*

8. In these colonies the increase and decrease of population is so directly affected by the importation of immigrants, that the subject of population naturally leads to that of immigration and emigration. There is, however, considerable room still for improvement in the compilation of those returns, which moreover are given only for Port Adelaide. Numerous bodies of Chinese landed there during the year 1856, and immediately left for Victoria, either proceeding over land the whole distance, or sailing hence to Port Elliot, and so making their way to Victoria by the Murray. The attention of the local authorities was not for a time sufficiently directed to the importance of distinguishing between the classes of immigrants arriving, with a view to ascertaining the real increase of population thereby gained. It is impossible now fully to correct the errors for 1856, which have arisen from not distinguishing between the Chinese and other immigrants. It was announced in the speech with which I opened the present Parliament last April, that the population of the colony at the close of 1856 was 109,000, but that estimate has been since reduced to 104,700 in consequence of the attention of the ministry being drawn by me to the Chinese immigration to Port Adelaide. I shall not, however, further allude to that part of the subject, but may mention that during the first six months of this year there has been a very large Chinese immigration to Port Robe in the south-eastern part of the province. It appears from a return now before me of Mr. Melville, the Sub-collector of Customs at that port, that between the 17th January and the 4th May, 10,235 Chinese from Hong Kong landed there, all of whom immediately left overland for the Victoria gold fields, having adopted this circuitous route for the purpose of avoiding the poll tax levied on Chinese landing in a Victorian seaport.

9. As the Legislature here has now passed a law, which will soon be proclaimed, imposing the same tax on the Chinese landing here as that to which they are subject in Victoria, this immigration will no doubt soon cease altogether. The great numbers in which they landed at Robe Town—as many as 924 arriving in one ship—induced me to station a small military detachment there; but I am bound to say in behalf of this singular race, that, considering the circumstances of their arrival and the extortion and provocation to which they were occasionally subjected, they have hitherto manifested in their conduct considerable forbearance and respect for the law, conducting themselves generally with decorum and propriety.

10. Having thus drawn your attention to the fact of the emigration and immigration returns applying to Port Adelaide alone, and my reason for doubting the accuracy of those returns, as a guide to the real permanent gain to population which might be inferred from the excess of arrivals over departures, you will observe the excess at Port Adelaide for 1856 is given as 9,841.

11. The enclosed return of the Immigration Agent shows that fifteen vessels arrived here during 1856, carrying 4,177 souls, of whom I find by further investigation 2,335 were males and 1,837 females, showing an excess of 498

males. The following table gives the leading facts of the immigration of the last four years :—

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Adult Single Females.
1853	1,948	2,635	4,583	826
1854	3,609	5,215	8,824	2,098
1855	4,514	7,357	11,871	4,049
1856	2,335	1,837	4,177	624

12. The Immigration Agent's quarterly reports for 1856 contain ample evidence of improvement in the selection of immigrants for this colony during 1856 as compared with the previous year, whilst the renewed and pressing applications made from time to time by the Immigration Agent for an increased supply of really good female servants exhibit the great capacity of South Australia for absorbing and settling here that particular class of immigrants, if well selected. Unfortunately the difficulties are great of inducing well-trained single female servants of good character to emigrate from Great Britain, where, as the Emigration Commissioners observe, such services are also in demand. Individually, I have no doubt that really good single female domestic servants and well-trained farm servants to the amount of 100 per month would readily get settled here, and though I objected to the very large female immigration of 1855 as unsuited to the peculiar exigencies of this colony, I cannot view with entire satisfaction the excess of males in the assisted emigration of 1856, even though it be but a temporary departure from the usual course, and not intended to make the immigration of 1856 a precedent for future years.

#### *Pauperism.*

13. It is gratifying to find, when considering the condition of the population settled in this colony, that with the increase of population there has also been a considerable decrease of the destitution which marked the year 1855. The enclosed half-yearly reports of the Destitute Board show that the number of persons receiving relief and on their books on the 31st December 1855 were 1,898. At the end of the first half of the year that number was reduced to 531, whilst at the close of the year it amounted to only 365, or little more than one fourth of what it had been twelve months previously. No case of an able-bodied male labourer being relieved at the public expense ever occurs; and even during the great pressure occasioned in 1855 by an extraordinary influx of nearly 12,000 Government immigrants during a period of scarcity following a deficient harvest, the vigorous prosecution of public works and the providing employment at low wages for all able-bodied labourers at the quarries, which I caused to be opened near the Dry Creek, about seven miles from Adelaide, rendered the necessity of administering relief directly to the able-bodied a matter of rare occurrence, once that system had been got into working order.

#### *Crime.*

14. In this respect, also, I think the community has just reason to congratulate itself, especially if we look back a few years; for, whilst the convictions for felony in the Supreme Court were 80 and 96 in the years 1850 and 1851, the population being then only 63,700 and 66,538 respectively, the convictions for felony in the Supreme Court during 1856 only amounted to 73 in a population exceeding 104,000. The convictions for misdemeanors for the former years were 95 and 103 respectively, and in 1856 only 85. As the police force is certainly not less efficient now in procuring convictions than it was formerly, these returns are good exponents of the moral character of the people, as well as of the general comfort in which the increased population is enabled to live. Moreover it should be remembered, that some of the worst crimes, both against person and property, are committed by liberated convicts from Tasmania, and of late from Western Australia.

15. An equally favourable, and I think a very remarkable as well as satisfactory evidence of progress, will be found in the records of the Magistrates' Courts in Adelaide, where the informations under Acts of Council were but 478 in 1856, against 954 in 1855, and 1,046 in 1854; whilst the number of criminal cases tried, though somewhat in excess of the preceding years, was but 208 against 539 in 1850.

16. Convictions for drunkenness, the root of so much crime, have also diminished greatly as compared with the three preceding years, a fact which has increased significance when viewed in connexion with the great addition made to the general population in the last few years. The following table gives the number of convictions for this offence in the Metropolitan Courts:—

Year.	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.
Number of offences - -	388	361	476	750	909	834	630

I have hopes, moreover, that drunkenness will continue perceptibly to diminish each succeeding year as compared with the population, if the cultivation of vineyards and manufacture of wine continue to progress as of late years, there being now 753 acres in vineyards, whilst there were but 197 acres of vines in 1849. I may also observe, that as the above metropolitan returns, favourable though they be if compared with the statistics of the other Australian capitals, represent in a great measure habitual offenders, of whom some were convicted more than a dozen times in the year; the population of South Australia must not be judged as to sobriety by those returns.

#### *Education.*

17. As an auxiliary of civil government in preventing the growth of crime, independent of its paramount influence in promoting the social happiness and moral progress of a people, I pass naturally from treating of crime to its best preventive, the education of the rising youth of both sexes. On this subject there is much to rejoice at when we consider the recent origin of the colony, founded not twenty-one years ago. It is natural that physical and material wants should, under such circumstances, have hitherto claimed the principal attention of a community which had to commence by housing itself against the weather, and raising subsistence from an uncultivated wilderness. In this point of view I do not consider it an unsatisfactory result, that the State contribution to education in 1856, both in aid of stipends to teachers and the erection of school-houses, salaries of inspectors, &c. &c., reached 12,230*l*, and that the number of licensed schools was 147, with an average attendance of 6,516 pupils, taught by 147 licensed teachers.

18. The Central Board of Education, whose report for the last half of 1856 I enclose, computes that two-fifths of the pupils under instruction in the whole province are taught in schools not included in the above number, and unconnected with the Board. Thence they infer, that altogether there were in 1856, 10,830 of the youth of both sexes receiving more or less educational training; and, assuming the population of the colony at 92,000, they give one in every 8½ of the population as the proportion of persons receiving education.

19. If that estimate be accurate, the proportion of youth here receiving some education would about equal the proportion in England; but the Board has evidently underrated the population, which at the close of 1856 amounted to 144,000, and perhaps averaged 100,000 during that year, so that the proportion of pupils to the population would be nearer one in 9½ than 8½.

20. It would also seem that as the census of March 1855 showed in a total of 85,109 inhabitants, as many as 27,155 boys and girls between two and fourteen years of age, or as we may thence infer, upwards of 17,700 between six and fourteen years, there must have been at least 20,000 such children in the colony in 1856, of whom, according to the statistics of the Board, more than 9,000 were receiving apparently no education whatever.

21. It is true that the number of schools and teachers is gradually increasing, but in many cases the instruction given is far from what is desirable, and I hope

far from what it will be after the lapse of a few more years. I look forward with confidence to this community being hereafter distinguished for its attention to education, for the subject already excites much interest in all classes. Nevertheless, frequent changes of ministries during this session, and the consequent weakness of the Executive Government, has hitherto prevented the adoption of some comprehensive measure adapted to the educational wants of the country. In the meantime, as is proved by the annual report of Mr. Wyatt, the present chief inspector of schools, much is even now being accomplished, notwithstanding the inadequate means at the disposal of the Education Board.

22. There will, no doubt, be various opinions expressed as to the system which may finally prove most applicable to the means and wishes of the community. For my own part, I should gladly see established here a system like that which works so admirably in Upper Canada, where the whole country is divided into school districts, each of which has its common school; whilst a certain number of these districts are grouped into a county, which has its grammar school, where an industrious youth may obtain a free scholarship, and win his way by another step in the educational ladder to one of the colleges, as he might previously have passed from the common district school to the grammar school of the county.

23. In two respects the present system is based on right principles; first, Government attempts, in some degree, to proportion the assistance given to the individual enterprise and qualifications of teachers who establish schools, which latter must attain a certain standard of efficiency to entitle the teacher to a stipend; but though it thus promotes the casual exertions of individuals, it does not, like the Canadian system, proportion its aid to the amount contributed by the district, thereby awakening continuous public sympathy and action, instead of merely partial and desultory efforts of individuals. Secondly, like the Canadian system, it neither encourages nor permits any denominational distinction or teaching, and altogether, though far from adequate to the growing wants of the country, it has accomplished much good, and works sufficiently well to afford the community leisure, without serious inconvenience, to determine the best mode of improving it.

#### *Agriculture.*

24. I shall now pass from returns bearing on the moral and social development of the community to those which more directly exhibit the material condition of the population. I shall first notice the agricultural progress of the colony, as that has exercised the greatest influence on the character of the people, and contributed most to the present sound condition of the province. The yeomanry, who have here found a home, and who are at once tillers of the soil and employers of labour, are more than any one class the real bone and sinew of the colony; and the industry which has so widely covered the land with farms, homesteads, tillage, and fencing of every description, has probably never been equalled in its result in any British colony in the same number of years by the same amount of population.

25. The census returns of March 1855 gave a total population of 85,189, of which the professions and occupations of only 25,320 are accounted for, leaving 59,869 unaccounted for, of whom, no doubt, the great majority were women and children. Of the 25,320 whose occupations are given, 5,321 were farmers, 5,105 agricultural labourers, and 393 gardeners; that is, 10,819 were engaged directly in agriculture. If we contrast this number with that of the persons occupied in the other great interests of the colony, the mining and pastoral, and which figure most largely in its exports, we find there were but 840 miners and 1,338 shepherds and stockmen.

26. I have no reason to suppose that any considerable change took place during 1856 in the relative numbers of persons engaged in the above pursuits. I conclude, therefore, that those directly engaged in agriculture in 1856 were, as in 1855, five times more numerous than those engaged in all the mining and pastoral pursuits of the colony united. Nevertheless a careful analysis of the produce exported by those classes in 1856, as given in the accompanying statis-



ties (page 247) will show that the larger aggregate export was produced by the smaller number of individuals, thus,—

SOUTH  
AUSTRALIA

Exports, 1856.	
Agricultural, farm, and dairy produce, &c. -	£ 562,814
Mineral, 416,840l. } . . . .	829,008
Pastoral, 412,163l. }	
Total . . . . .	1,391,817

27. It is, however, by the spread of agriculture that the greatest amount of industrial prosperity has been created here, and the real settlement of the country most effectually accomplished. The shepherd and the miner have rarely the same interest in their adopted country as the owner of a homestead, however humble, and of some acres, however few. The pursuit which gives most employment to labour, which creates most homesteads, and develops the greatest amount of social happiness amongst the greatest number, and which soonest enables the labourer to become an employer of labour, must rank high in the opinion either of the statesman or philanthropist, anxious to convert the wilderness into a prosperous and populous province. The results achieved here in that respect by the well-directed efforts of a comparatively small population are so striking that I am desirous of calling your special attention to them.

28. In 1846, or only ten years preceding the year whose history I am illustrating, all the population of this province did not exceed 28,000. At the end of 1856 it was 104,000, the mean number of the population, therefore, was but 65,000 during those ten years. In 1846 there were probably 40,000 acres under cultivation, including hay and miscellaneous crops, of which there was then no return. Ten years subsequently, or in 1856, there were 203,423 acres fenced in and cultivated, of which 162,000 acres were under wheat. There are at this moment probably not much less than 230,000 acres under cultivation, being more than two acres to every man, woman, and child now in the province. I am not aware that any equivalent result has been attained either in Europe or America in so short a time by the same number of individuals. Even in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland the proportion of cultivated land to each individual of the population does not at this day exceed one acre and two-thirds of an acre, though it is computed there are still 6,000,000 acres cultivable, but not cultivated.

29. I propose now to consider the progress of South Australia in this respect as compared with the older colonies of New South Wales, Victoria, and Tasmania, as shown in the following Table:—

1856.	Date of Foundation of Colony.	Population.	Acres in Wheat.	Acres in other Crops.	Total Acres under Cultivation.
New South Wales -	A.D. 1788	286,873	106,124	78,891	185,015
Victoria - - -	1835	406,577	80,154	99,823	179,982
Tasmania - - -	1804	81,492	63,731	119,825	185,556
South Australia -	1836	104,708	162,011	41,411	203,422
Total - - -	-	879,650	414,020	339,955	753,975

30. Those figures enable us to discern at a comprehensive glance how far Australia could have raised sufficient supplies of flour for her population in 1856. If we suppose an average crop of seventeen bushels per acre to have been raised from the above number of acres, the result would be 7,038,340 bushels or 153,007 tons of flour, computing 46 bushels to the ton. Taking the usual

standard of eight bushels per annum per head as the consumption, we find the quantity of wheat tallying in a very remarkable manner with the actual number of the population, for whilst the amount of wheat would feed 879,792 individuals, the population, as shown in the above table, was 879,650.

31. Nevertheless, as there was a large importation of foreign wheat and flour, chiefly from Valparaiso, into Sydney and Melbourne during 1856, it is necessary to account in some way for those importations. The fact of the produce of the harvest of 1855-56 not being available at the commencement of 1856, whilst the previous harvest of 1854-55 had been very deficient, will in a great measure account for that which otherwise would be a striking anomaly, whilst it should also not be forgotten that the produce of the acres stated above to be under tillage during 1856 was not available till the current year, and that a much less breadth of land in proportion to the population had been in cultivation during 1855, a fact, however, which I am not in a position at present to prove positively by statistical returns from all the neighbouring colonies.

32. The increased and increasing supplies which South Australia is raising will enable her probably to export next year from 8,000 to 10,000 tons of flour more than during the current year, and will soon render the Australian continent entirely independent of foreign supplies of flour, notwithstanding the large augmentations which the general population is annually receiving.

33. Indeed the general apprehension, where any apprehension appears to be entertained, seems to be that the supplies from South Australia will soon not only overtake but far exceed the demand. I believe that there is no real risk of this, because, in the first place, the flour produced in this colony, being not merely the finest grown in Australia, but almost the finest in the world—a fact of which there is now abundant proof—besides its obtaining the first prize at the Great Exhibition in London, it commands a higher price than any other flour here by nearly 1*l.* 10*s.* per ton, and if facilities be afforded for transporting it at a moderate cost to the markets for its consumption, South Australia will necessarily be the last portion of this continent in which we can expect wheat cultivation to be abandoned.

34. There is good reason to hope that there will be a paying market in Europe for all surplus produce here. This is a very important point, because the cultivation which is undertaken and the prosperity which is created by the stimulus of high but variable prices, which in the case of food it would be sound policy to diminish as far as possible, rests on no solid or assured foundation. The very fact of increasing cultivation tending by increased supplies to lower prices, would in that case limit the extension of agriculture, and thereby retard the development of this province.

35. On the other hand, the best and most wholesome stimulus of steady industry is found in low prices, if subject to little variation. The waste and mismanagement which high but uncertain prices foster and protect, soon give place to the thrift and economical improvements which low profits render necessary. Such profits, however, to invite the investment of capital, must be certain, which is the case here compared with the neighbouring colonies. Therefore I learn with great pleasure from the principal exporter of South Australian flour, that he has this year shipped with profit to England twenty tons, the produce of this colony. He also expects that in ordinary years it will be profitable to export flour to England whenever the price here falls to 5*s.* per bushel. If the farmer can thereby be assured of never receiving less than that sum, I confidently believe that no bounds can as yet be reasonably predicted to the resources of this province.

36. The Banks have also expressed their willingness to make advances, and have actually done so on flour shipped to England from here, and with this resource to fall back on there is little probability of any competition in the neighbouring colonies preventing South Australia profitably contributing large supplies of flour to her neighbours; for it is clear that cultivation will be kept up longest and be most extensive in the province where the lowest prices will be longest found profitable. That is the true test of the permanent soundness of such undertakings.

37. The only limit as yet discoverable under the above circumstances to increased cultivation with profit, would appear to be the degree of facility afforded to the farmer for transmitting his bulky produce readily and cheaply

to the ultimate point of consumption. Twenty thousand pounds value in gold dust can be more easily transported from the diggings in Victoria to a shipping port, than one ton of flour can be carried five miles in some places, and during some seasons of the year.

38. If the distance be long and the roads bad, the cost of transport must at last either exceed the value of the article, or so considerably increase its price that despite of local advantages of climate and soil where it may have been raised, others who may have to contend with positive disadvantages of inferior climate and dearer labour, may be enabled by greater facility of transport to undersell the producer of an article, though much cheaper and better, at the place of its original production.

39. This is a question in which the consumer, in whatever part of these colonies he may reside, is the party most interested, and every facility of transport given to the producer here is consequently a direct advantage to the consumer, an advantage, moreover, the importance of which is more evidently felt and more keenly appreciated in proportion as the consumption of such article enters extensively into the necessary wants of daily life. Of course this observation, though applicable to many other articles, must be regarded as especially so to corn and flour. It is therefore just as much the interest of the consumer in Victoria and New South Wales that the farmer here should have cheap facilities of transport by land and water, as it is the interest of the South Australian farmer himself.

40. For these reasons, and having a deep conviction of its being impossible that any benefit can be exclusively enjoyed by one colony of this group without its being either directly or indirectly shared by the others, I have often felt surprise, as well as regret, at the expression of opinions betokening more or less jealousy on the part of one portion of this community towards another, for the English race settled in Australia is in reality but one community. A railroad, for example, from Melbourne to the diggings, or the Murray, is as much open to the use of South Australians as to the people of Victoria; and I believe one of the principal benefits which the latter will derive from it would be cheap transport for produce raised by South Australian farmers for Victorian consumers. If the South Australian competes successfully at present with the Victorian farmer residing near the place where his crop is to be consumed, and who is, moreover, protected against his distant rival, first, by the cost of freight to Melbourne, and next, by bad roads, steep hills, bottomless swamps, and often by dishonest carriers, I, for my part, do not anticipate the farmer here being less able to perform what he accomplishes now in spite of those impediments, when the latter shall have been removed, or at least greatly diminished.

41. I shall, however, pursue this subject no further here. I merely wish to point out that facilities of transport, important everywhere, are of vital consequence to the South Australian, for I admit that the agricultural and general progress of the province will otherwise find its limit at no distant day. At present I only wish to complete this sketch of the agricultural prospects of the colony by calling attention to the marked effect which such extensive cultivation produces, not merely on the character of the people, but on the actual appearance of the country. When the youngest of the Australian group of colonies, with only a seventh in 1836 of the population of the whole, raised nearly as much wheat as the two oldest colonies of New South Wales and Tasmania together, and when to this is added a widely diffused taste for planting and gardening, the general appearance which the country under these circumstances is rapidly assuming is, as might be expected, most remarkable, as well as pleasing; remarkable because the rich cultivation, substantial fencing, and numerous comfortable cottages which the traveller here sees, not merely near the capital, but distributed over the country to a considerable distance from Adelaide, north, south, and east, give such an old, settled, and English rural character to the scenery, that it is already difficult to realize, in some places, how very few years previously the fields which he sees waving with grain, and the gardens filled with vines, and trees loaded with the finest fruit, were tenanted only by the wild animals, and the almost wilder aborigines of the bush. The contrast in that respect between this colony and New South Wales and Victoria is the subject of frequent comment by visitors, who find that here the "country" is the principal and most pleasing, instead of being

quite the secondary feature of the colony. The people too adopt it more thoroughly as their abiding home, in the true English sense of that word. On the whole, except Upper Canada, I know no colony where, in the general aspect of the country during a great portion of the year, and in the character and habits of the people, England is so likely in a few years to find herself more happily or more completely reproduced, as it were, than in South Australia. I shall conclude this review of the agricultural progress of the colony with the following table of prices of produce in the Adelaide market during 1856:—

—	Fine Flour per Ton of 2,000 lbs.	Wheat per Bushel.	Oats per Bushel.	Barley per Bushel.	Potatoes per Ton.	Hay per Ton.
Maximum -	£ 26	s. d. 9 6	s. d. 7 0	s. d. 5 6	£ 22	£ s. 3 10
Average -	21	8 3	5 9	4 0	9	2 10

Weight of prize cereals at the Agricultural show in Adelaide:—

Wheat, -	-	-	66 <sup>6</sup> / <sub>16</sub> lbs. per bushel.
Oats, -	-	-	47 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>16</sub> lbs.   "
Barley, -	-	-	55 <sup>4</sup> / <sub>16</sub> lbs.   "

#### *Pastoral Interests.*

43. I have dwelt on the topics which a review of the agricultural interests of the colony suggested, because hitherto the subject appears not to have been treated as fully as its growing and peculiar importance deserves, but I cannot venture to occupy your attention with so detailed an analysis of the other topics which form the contents of the Blue Book. I have, however, already explained that, although the agricultural interest of the colony in its bearing on the character of the people, and its importance to the great mass of the inhabitants may be regarded as the preponderating interest and the mainstay of the colony, the pastoral produce forms an important item in the Table of Exports. The export of wool alone rose in 1856 to 8,236,221 lbs. (value 412,163*l.*) from 5,590,171 lbs. (value 283,479*l.*) in the preceding year.

44. I believe if there was not a blade of corn grown in South Australia, the colony would nevertheless figure respectably as a pastoral country, its prospects in that respect having rapidly improved, and being destined in all human probability to increase still more rapidly than heretofore. Country is now occupied beyond Mount Serle and close to Lake Torrens, which was formerly supposed to be hopelessly sterile, and permanent water has been discovered in several places, at Blanche Water, St. Mary's Pool, &c., &c., affording facility for pushing squatting stations to a distance of nearly 450 miles north of Adelaide. The enclosed map will illustrate this better than any description. At the same time new discoveries in a direction to the north-west between Lake Torrens and the Great Salt Lake, now named Lake Gairdner, afford good reason for supposing that extensive pastoral tracts extend from thence far into the interior of the continent.

45. An exploring expedition under Mr. Hack has lately returned, having discovered and in part actually surveyed nearly 4,000 square miles of available country in the western part of the province between Streaky Bay and Spencer's Gulf, whilst other discoveries of good country are reported stretching from Fowler's Bay beyond the western limit of the province. Applications for more than five millions of acres have been made for pastoral purposes in the last few months, and it is impossible to foresee any limit to the pastoral capabilities of the colony. This subject will, however, fall more properly within the topics for discussion when treating hereafter of the present year.

46. As it may be interesting to exhibit in one table the comparative condition of the pastoral interest in this and the adjoining colonies during the year 1856,

I have drawn up the following table, the accuracy of which may be relied on so far as it goes :—

SOUTH  
AUSTRALIA.

—	Sheep.	Cattle.	Horses.
New South Wales -	7,736,323	2,023,418	168,925
Victoria - - -	4,641,548	666,613	47,832
South Australia - -	1,962,460	272,746	22,260
Tasmania - - -	1,674,967	88,608	18,019

### Mines.

47. In the accompanying statistical tables (page 253) there is a list given of fifty-eight mines in this colony, of which only twelve were worked during 1856. They were all copper mines, except that at Strathalbyn, which yields copper and lead. Unlike the pastoral and agricultural interests, which not merely raise large produce for export, but also feed the population of the colony, the value of the mines can be pretty fairly tested by the amount of produce exported. In 1856 the mining produce exported was in value 416,840*l.*, and there is now little doubt of some portions of the country near Mount Serle being extremely rich in copper. Some mineral leases have lately been granted in that neighbourhood, and the reports which have reached me give room to hope that a great addition will be there made to the wealth of the colony.

48. As the Burra Burra Mine has proved one of the most fortunate money speculations ever entered into in any country, original 5*l.* shares having been sold for 250*l.*, and as it is the principal contributor to the export of mining produce, I annex the last report of the Directors, which gives the most accurate information on a subject of special interest to numbers in England as well as here.

### Crown Lands.

49. I annex here a return of the Land Fund of 1856, as directed to be prepared in lieu of the more voluminous return heretofore transmitted. The total land revenue for the year was 250,991*l.*, consisting of the sum of 181,929*l.* proceeds of sale by auction of 133,785 acres at an average price of 1*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.* per acre, and the sum of 55,570*l.* paid for 53,606 acres, alienated by selection, pre-emptive right, and otherwise, at an average price of 1*l.* 0*s.* 10*d.* per acre, the difference 3,492*l.* consisting of rent of Crown lands and other items.

50. The following table gives the amount of the money received for land alienated for each year since 1850, inclusive :—

1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.
£ 90,385	£ 88,740	£ 99,081	£ 291,660	£ 383,469	£ 238,745	£ 235,460

51. The area of the province is supposed to contain nearly 200,000,000 acres, of which about 1,800,000 acres have been surveyed, and 1,576,384 had been sold at the beginning of this year. The Survey Department has been for many years extremely efficient, and there has always been a supply of surveyed land adequate to the demand. At this moment there are about 162,000 acres which, having been offered for sale at auction, are now open to all the world for selection at 1*l.* per acre. On the whole it would be difficult to afford greater facilities to intending purchasers than are already given in this colony.

SOUTH  
AUSTRALIA.*Imports and Exports.*

52. The value of the imports and exports of the last three years, not including imports re-exported, and only giving as exports the produce of the colony, was as follows :—

—	Imports.	Exports.
1854	£ 1,925,771	£ 694,422
1855	1,069,676	686,933
1856	1,099,126	1,398,367

53. The largest importation into this colony was that of 1854, but the deficient harvest of that year and over-importation reduced the imports of 1855 by more than \$50,000*l.* below those of 1854, and it was not till the commencement of the present year that the colony could be said to have entirely recovered from the excessive importation of 1854. The balance of trade is now in a remarkably healthy state, and the increased legitimate production of the colony is progressing even from month to month in a most satisfactory manner.

54. The following were the principal articles, the produce of South Australia, exported during 1856 :—

	£	s.	d.
Farm and dairy produce - -	562,309	6	1
Bark - - - - -	2,345	0	0
Hides, skins, horns, and leather - -	1,546	0	0
Copper and copper ore - -	404,811	0	0
"    and lead ore - -	683	8	0
Regulus - - - - -	2,834	0	0
Specimens of natural history - -	134	0	0
Wine - - - - -	156	0	0
Wool - - - - -	412,162	0	0
Tallow - - - - -	1,242	0	0
Gold (2,017 oz.) - - - - -	8,800	0	0
Miscellaneous - - - - -	1,321	10	0

Total export, the produce of South Australia - - - - -	£1,398,367	4	1
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55. I would observe that some of the articles in the above list may, perhaps, not correctly be said to be the produce of South Australia, though shipped from South Australian ports. The opening of the navigation of the Murray is beginning to make us exporters, in some degree, of New South Wales and Victorian produce. As a set off to which, a great portion of the pastoral and agricultural produce of the south-eastern portion of this province is shipped from Portland in Victoria.

*River Murray.*

56. This report would be very incomplete if I did not include in it some notice of the great river, which may be said to unite rather than to separate the three colonies of South Australia, New South Wales, and Victoria. In promoting the facilities of transit for goods and passengers by its waters, it is impossible to say which of the three colonies is most interested. I have already had the honour of reporting to you some results of a voyage which I made last year from the Goolwa to Albury, visiting Beechworth and the Ovens diggings. I transmitted some information at that time on the Murray traffic, and I shall here give a brief synopsis of what has been accomplished in creating and extending that traffic. I may premise, that in estimating the traffic up and down the river, my statements may not in some particulars agree with official returns, but I prefer in this matter relying on information supplied by merchants engaged in the trade and conversant with all the particulars.

57. The first commencement of the trade in the river Murray was in August 1853, the "Lady Augusta" steamer and "Eureka" barge having left the Goolwa that month on a trading voyage to the provinces of New South Wales and Victoria, as high as Swan Hill.

58. The traffic during the navigable season of that year consisted of 276 tons of goods, valued at about 25,000*l.*, taken up the river; and 1,362 bales of wool, worth about an equal amount, brought down.

59. During the season of 1854, 365 tons of goods were shipped up the river, valued 35,000*l.*; and 3,000 bales of wool were brought down, valued at 60,000*l.*

60. In the season of 1855, 700 tons of goods were forwarded up the river, valued at 50,000*l.*; and 2,700 bales of wool, worth about 55,000*l.*, brought down.

61. In 1856 the trade first commenced with the large population centered on the Ovens gold fields, situated about thirty miles from the nearest point on the river, and during that season 3,629 tons of goods were transported up the river, valued at about 250,000*l.*; whilst 2,370 bales of wool were conveyed down, valued at 47,000*l.*

62. Up to the end of the season of 1856 great difficulties and expense attended the conveyance of goods between Adelaide and the river, as, owing to the supposed impracticability of navigating the sea-month, all articles had to be carried in coasting vessels between Port Adelaide and the inconvenient and dangerous roadstead of Port Elliot; the communication between which place and the vessels trading on the river was managed by means of a tramway seven miles in length, extending from Port Elliot to the Goolwa.

63. In consequence of the heavy cost of the mode of transit, and the great loss of property which annually occurred by shipwreck at Port Elliot, the Government early in 1857 ordered a survey of the sea entrance of the river, which was very ably and correctly carried out by Captain B. Douglas, the Naval Officer of the province; and the channel having been properly beacons and buoyed, the R. M. N. Co., who were the parties principally interested in the river trade, purchased a screw steamer adapted for the purpose of running direct between Port Adelaide and the Goolwa, the lowest terminal point of the river steamers.

64. This steamer, called the "Corin," had been running for about three months, making a voyage every week with perfect regularity, to the great saving of expense, and the great convenience of the river traffic; when, unfortunately, she got ashore inside the bar, and there are fears entertained as to the possibility of getting her off.

65. The charge for freight, by steamer, from Port Adelaide to the Goolwa, was 30*s.* per ton, but could be made profitable at 20*s.* per ton. The river freight between Goolwa and Wahgunyah, the nearest point to the Ovens gold fields, and a distance by the river of 1,700 miles, is 9*l.* per ton, which might be profitably reduced to 5*l.* per ton, provided the river was cleared of impediments, and made navigable at all seasons of the year, instead of during only six months, as at present.

66. The carrying power on the river at present consists of ten steamers and ten barges, equal to an aggregate of 1,500 tons burthen, and 400 horse-power. And the trade up the river for the season 1857 will probably reach 5,000 tons; whilst about 3,000 bales of wool will be brought down.

67. It is, however, quite evident, that no scheme can so effectually promote the navigation of the Murray, and render the traffic at all times secure, or save an equal amount of time and distance, as connecting the port of Adelaide, which is central in its position, with some part of the Murray itself by railway. It is comparatively immaterial where such railway may strike the Murray, but it would, of course, be preferable that it should traverse and open up some portion of the country available for raising the supplies most in demand on the settlements near the Murray.

68. That which will be the main trunk railway of the province has already been completed to Gawler Town, about 36 miles from Port Adelaide, and will no doubt eventually be carried north according as there may be a fair prospect of thereby accelerating the settlement of that portion of the province. A branch from that trunk railway has been projected to the new township of "Blanche Town," near Moorundee, on the Murray; and if carried out, such a line would open up some very fine country north of Truro, besides directly connecting

Adelaide with a vast internal water communication of at least 3,400 miles formed by the Murray and its tributaries, for it is computed that so much will ere long be rendered navigable at certain seasons.

69. In the meantime this Government is liberally assisting in the task of clearing the snags in the Murray. A boat with proper machinery for the purpose is now being built at Sydney, under the superintendence of Captain Caddell; and as the voyage to Albany from the Goolwa, a distance of 1,750 miles, was recently performed in twenty-one days, the further clearance of the river will probably shorten the voyage to fifteen days.

#### *Shipping.*

70. The following table exhibits the shipping inwards and outwards for 1856:—

	Inward Tonnage.				Outward Tonnage.			
	TOTAL.	Great Britain.	Colonial.	Foreign.	TOTAL.	Great Britain.	Colonial.	Foreign.
1854	146,666	60,369	78,916	7,381	143,868	8,394	102,892	32,582
1855	105,812	55,040	40,163	10,609	106,969	6,382	65,068	35,519
1856	106,741	39,079	59,457	8,205	104,210	7,397	79,387	17,476

	Number of Ships and Seamen.			
	Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Number of Ships.	Number of Seamen.	Number of Ships.	Number of Seamen.
1854	476	8,581	471	8,047
1855	339	5,970	337	5,567
1856	397	5,548	386	5,216

71. The accommodation at Port Adelaide for shipping of a large class, and such as it is now generally found most profitable to employ in the Australian trade, is still very deficient; though the operations of the Harbour Trust have considerably improved the old port. The arrival of a steam dredge from England and of an engineer of considerable experience in the deepening and improvement of harbours leads me to hope that I may next year have the pleasure of reporting increased accommodation for large vessels, and increased facilities of ingress and egress to and from the harbour. If the depth of water could at all times of tide be rendered sufficient to prevent large vessels of 1,000 tons from taking the ground, the accommodation otherwise at the port would generally be found adequate for the traffic, because there is no obstruction to extending the accommodation almost indefinitely by extending the wharves down the creek which now forms the harbour, and is many miles in length.

#### *Revenue and Expenditure.*

72. The statements of revenue are so mixed with receipts on account of loans and payments from one moiety of the Land Fund to the other, and again to the ordinary revenue under the old system, that it is not easy to separate the several items, so as to arrive at the actual amount for a series of years of the proceeds during each year of the Ordinary Revenue and Land Fund. I have directed a table exhibiting this information to be compiled, but unfortunately I was not aware of the want of it till too late to make use of it for this report.

73. I enclose, however, a very full comparative statement of the estimated and actual revenue and expenditure of the year 1856, to which I must refer you for



more particular details. I subjoin moreover a table of the total revenue and expenditure for the last three years:—

Year.	Total Revenue.	Total Expenditure.
	£	£
1854	844,010	680,812
1855	490,290	553,294
1856	724,315	680,149

74. The ordinary revenue for 1856 amounted to 205,423*l.*, and the actual receipts from the Land Fund reached 250,991*l.* The total proceeds of revenue for the year, irrespective of loans or other aids from any foreign source, were therefore 456,414*l.*, which amount will probably be considerably exceeded during the current year.

#### Public Works.

75. I shall not enter into this very extensive subject here, as I think it preferable not to encumber this report with matter into the details of which I shall hereafter have to enter when bringing before you the financial position of the colony in reference to loans already, either contracted or which the Government propose contracting for the completion and undertaking of railway and other extensive works. I shall merely observe that irrespective of a considerable outlay on railways, and 100,856*l.* expended on roads, streets, and bridges, there was 81,597*l.* expended by Government in various public works throughout the colony during 1856.

#### Postal.

76. The following return exhibits the number of ship and inland letters passing through the post here, with the income and expenditure of the department for 1856:—

Number of Post Offices.	Letters.		Newspapers.		TOTALS.		Income.	Expenditure.
	Ship.	Inland.	Ship.	Inland.	Letters.	Newspapers.		
102	302,438	542,415	315,372	470,236	844,853	785,608	£ 8,925	£ 13,715

In addition to the above I have thought it expedient to call for a return of the number of letters and newspapers received from and despatched to Great Britain, Indian and Mediterranean ports, and the continent of Europe, during 1856. That return is important as bearing on the proportion which South Australia should contribute towards the maintenance of steam postal communication with Great Britain.

PLACE.	Received.		Despatched.	
	Letters.	Newspapers.	Letters.	Newspapers.
Great Britain - - -	78,056	131,506	77,723	92,907
Indian ports - - -	4,416	1,411	2,042	1,886
Mediterranean ports and Europe - - - }	320	50	145	126
Total - - -	82,792	132,967	79,910	94,919

#### Telegraph.

77. I have much pleasure in calling your attention to the enclosed very satisfactory report of the extremely zealous and efficient Superintendent of Colonial Telegraphs, Mr. Todd. The federative advantages of a network of  
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electric telegraphs spread over the country, and hourly interchanging the wants and wishes of the inhabitants of this continent, must tend to create a unity of purpose and harmony of feeling which may hereafter have important political as well as commercial results.

78. Whether regarded as a necessary or as a luxury, it is gratifying to learn from experience here that the electric telegraph is self-supporting, and increasingly so the more it is extended. Its extension, therefore, to almost any degree may be considered within the limit of the colony's means. The importance, moreover, of telegraphic communication with England via India, the accomplishment of which may now be reasonably expected in a few years, must have an important and beneficial bearing on the possibility of cultivating wheat here for the English market. Rapid transmission of prices current there and here will greatly diminish the risk attending large shipments of that nature, and thus another step will be made towards establishing a moderate fixed price for his produce on which the farmer can count, irrespective of the speculative high and depressing prices which alternate so frequently in the colonial markets.

79. The lines of telegraph hitherto constructed here, whilst framed in a most satisfactory and substantial way, have nevertheless been more cheaply constructed than in any other Australian colony. In March next the communication between Adelaide and Melbourne will probably be complete. And already, including the line to the Goolwa, which is about to open, there are nearly ninety miles complete, and in working order, within the colony.

#### *Climate and Diseases.*

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80. I annex the Lunatic Asylum and Hospital returns for 1856. Exclusive of salaries, the cost of the hospital was 3,375*l.*, and the annual expense of each patient 51*l.* 8*s.*; whilst the total cost of the patients in the lunatic asylum was 1,968*l.*, and the annual cost of each 32*l.* 16*s.* 2*d.* The admissions to the hospital in 1856 were 553, the deaths 83. Admissions to the lunatic asylum 69, deaths 4; daily average number of patients, males 38, females 30.

81. I regret that the number of patients in the lunatic asylum should continue so considerable in proportion to the population. Such, I believe, has generally been found to be the case in these colonies, and I think there are sufficient exciting causes in separation from friends, and the novel as well as frequently distressing situations of immigrants and others arriving here, to account for the number of lunatics without ascribing it in any way to a peculiarity of the climate.

82. I am indebted to Mr. Todd for the enclosed meteorological table, which gives almost every particular connected with the weather for the eight months ended 30th of last June. It is certainly the most carefully compiled and most reliable document of the kind which has ever been transmitted from South Australia; and though six of the months which it gives belong to the present year, and the coldest months, July and August, are not included, I nevertheless do not withhold it, as I believe it, even in its present form, to be valuable. Accurate observations of the kind given in the enclosed table, are likely to be hereafter of great service to the agriculturist.

#### *Religion.*

83. There is no longer any aid given here by the State to any religious denomination whatever. Except in the distant country districts, I think the system works very well, and certainly true religion must be promoted by removing all cause of strife and jealousy between the adherents to different forms of belief.

84. In March 1855, when the population was only 85,189, the following were the relative proportions of the number of members of the leading denominations:—

Church of England.	Roman Catholic.	Wesleyan Methodists.	Church of Scotland.	Congregationalists, including Baptists and Independents.	Other Denominations.	Jews.	Lutherans.
33,812	8,335	11,178	5,264	5,355	7,118	405	6,161

The total places of worship were:—

—	1855.	1856.	Increase.
Places of worship -	191	218	27
Average attendance -	22,996	23,713	717

### *Aborigines.*

85. In the estimate of population given at the commencement of this report, I have not included the aborigines, who are inserted in the last return, that of 1855, as being nearly as numerous as in 1850, viz., 3,540. This cannot be accurate, as wherever I have gone on the Murray or in the south-eastern district, or towards Port Lincoln in the west, and Port Augusta in the north, I have everywhere found the natives rapidly disappearing. There no longer exists even one native of the formerly numerous Adelaide tribe; and throughout the country I found amongst the squatters and stockholders a very general regret at the diminution in number of the natives, who of late years have made themselves extremely useful to the settlers in the distant parts of the province.

86. I think it evident that the aboriginal race is destined to melt away entirely. All attempts to civilize them appear to fail, or if successful, the native when "civilized" dies. It is impossible to conceive any person more qualified for the task of reclaiming and instructing the natives than Archdeacon Hale, now Bishop of Perth, and for a long time Superintendent of the Poonindie Mission, near Port Lincoln. With a noble and Christian ardour he devoted himself and his means exclusively for years to the one great object of his life, the conversion and instruction of the aborigines. The mission was founded by him, and the results are given in the enclosed very interesting report of the Rev. Mr. Hammond, a gentleman well adapted for the task he has undertaken, by his temper, perseverance, piety, and, I may add, by his medical skill, which entitles his opinion to great weight on many subjects connected with the natives.

87. I have myself early this year visited Poonindie in company with the Lord Bishop of Adelaide and Mr. Hammond. I was much pleased with the quiet and orderly behaviour of the few natives then in the institution. Several of them could certainly read and write, but I confess I was not at all impressed with a high or even a moderate opinion of their intelligence as compared with that of the negroes, to whom they are physically and mentally altogether an inferior race.

88. The extraordinary fact that despite of the care bestowed on them, no less than 20 out of 60 inmates of this institution had died in fifteen months in passing through the civilizing process is, to my mind, when coupled with what is occurring amongst the natives in other parts of the country, quite satisfactory proof that the race is not destined to survive the advent of the white man. Whilst the negro lives, and even multiplies, side by side with the European, the Australian aborigines disappear as the line of civilization advances, and much in the same way as wild animals of the bush and game become scarce, and at last disappear, no one can well explain how or where, from the neighbourhood of settled districts, whether in America, here, or elsewhere, all over the world. It only remains for us who supersede them in the possession of this fair heritage, to see that in their decline they suffer nothing from want or ill treatment. I believe just complaints on that score are now rare, and I can testify to the general kindness which this singular race meets from the settlers, who, in fact, are even selfishly quite alive to the evil they sustain by their diminishing numbers.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RICHARD GRAVES MACDONNELL,  
Governor.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.  
&c. &c. &c.

## 242      REPORTS EXHIBITING THE PAST AND PRESENT

SOUTH  
AUSTRALIA.

Enclosure 1 in No. 33.

Encl. 1. in No. 33.      STATISTICS of SOUTH AUSTRALIA for 1856, compiled from authentic Official Records in the Chief Secretary's Office.

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## No. 1.

RETURN of the POPULATION of SOUTH AUSTRALIA for the Years 1850 to 1856, inclusive.

Year ended 31st December.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Aborigines in Settled Districts (estimated at).
1850	35,963	27,737	63,700	3,730
1851	39,738	26,800	66,538	3,730
1852	36,310	32,353	68,663	3,670
1853	43,400	35,544	78,944	3,640
1854	50,517	42,028	92,545	—
1855	48,640	48,342	96,982	3,540
1856	53,086	51,622	104,708	—

NOTE.—The last census was taken on the 31st March 1855; the above statements are only approximate returns, compiled from the best available sources.

ANALYSIS of the POPULATION as shown by Census taken in the Years 1844, 1846, 1851, and 1855.

Dates on which Census was taken.	Number of each Age.										Married or Single.			TOTAL.							
	Males.						Females.				Males.	Females.	General Total.								
	Under Two Years of Age.	Two and under Seven.	Seven and under Fourteen.	Fourteen and under Twenty-one.	Twenty-one and under Forty-five.	Forty-five and under Sixty.	Sixty and upwards.	Under Two Years of Age.	Two and under Seven.	Seven and under Fourteen.	Fourteen and under Twenty-one.	Twenty-one and under Forty-five.		Forty-five and under Sixty.	Sixty and upwards.	Married.	Single.	Single.	Males.	Females.	
1844. Feb. 26 1844.	806	1,469	1,332	922	4,425	457	44	804	1,454	1,341	904	2,908	91	18	3,896	6,540	3,002	4,600	9,236	7,679	17,905
Feb. 26 1851.	1,616	3,145	1,896	1,086	6,113	620	76	1,613	3,141	1,846	911	3,090	429	40	5,247	8,823	3,511	5,899	13,670	9,606	23,806
Jan. 1 - 1855.	2,223	4,734	4,778	2,847	17,106	2,305	600	2,221	4,699	4,479	2,846	14,792	2,305	587	14,664	24,629	18,482	16,055	38,296	37,737	66,706
MAR. 31 1855.	3,693	6,689	6,394	4,905	27,654	3,496	712	3,690	6,682	6,299	4,895	23,691	3,496	653	28,066	49,402	15,795	23,474	61,795	61,469	103,822

\*In this total are included 622 persons not classified in the preceding columns, this number having been added for convicts and persons travelling.

COMPARATIVE RETURN of the Number of BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, and DEATHS registered in the PROVINCE of SOUTH AUSTRALIA during the Years 1851 to 1856 inclusive.

## BIRTHS.

Year.	Males.	Females.	Totals.
1851	1,405	1,354	2,759
1852	1,431	1,296	2,727
1853	1,401	1,373	2,774
1854	1,728	1,723	3,451
1855	2,054	1,890	3,944
1856	2,336	2,132	4,468

## MARRIAGES.

Solemnized.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.
By the Church of England - -	37	517	591	463	99	488
" " Scotland - - -	4	9	53	30	28	35
" Roman Catholics - - -	20	61	113	137	145	201
" German Lutherans - - -	43	49	9	75	68	85
" Congregational Independents -	43	47	56	90	86	66
" Wesleyans - - - -	31	24	46	44	79	118
" Free Church - - - -	—	13	36	49	50	70
" Christians - - - -	2	—	4	3	1	5
" Deputy-Registrar, Adelaide -	7	2	2	10	—	—
" Baptists - - - -	—	—	9	9	31	46
" Deputy-Registrar, Port Lincoln	—	—	—	1	—	—
" Bible Christians - - -	—	4	10	16	27	36
" Friends - - - -	—	—	2	—	1	2
" Moravians - - - -	—	—	—	—	1	2
" Deputy-Registrar, Murray -	—	—	1	1	—	—
" United Presbyterian - - -	—	—	—	—	3	—
" Jews - - - -	2	—	7	—	2	1
" District Registrars - - -	—	—	—	—	13	17
Total - - - -	189	726	1,020	928	634	1,172

## DEATHS.

Year.	Age.														Males.	Females.	Totals.
	Under 2 Years.		Under 3 Years.		Under 10 Years.		Under 30 Years.		Under 50 Years.		50 Years & above.		Age unknown.				
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.			
1851	278	261	25	27	17	10	81	58	96	59	35	26	—	—	532	441	973
1852	301	256	31	37	19	17	68	54	86	70	34	34	17	4	395	503	1,098
1853	333	305	93	77	32	29	72	71	106	70	40	31	15	1	691	584	1,275
1854	411	357	51	61	20	22	65	74	86	74	64	39	18	4	715	631	1,346
1855	472	413	79	61	28	18	88	108	112	107	61	51	48	17	888	775	1,663
1856	532	278	29	30	19	9	69	71	82	56	73	33	54	12	658	489	1,147

NOTE.—This Return merely shows the number of Births, Marriages, and Deaths actually registered in the province; there are at present no satisfactory data for estimating the number of those unregistered.

SOUTH  
AUSTRALIA.

## No. 3.

RETURN of VESSELS INWARDS and OUTWARDS, and of IMMIGRATION and EMIGRATION, at PORT ADELAIDE, during the Years 1853 to 1856, inclusive.

## INWARDS AND IMMIGRATION.

	1853.							1854.							1855.							1856.						
	Number of Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Passengers.			Number of Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Passengers.			Number of Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Passengers.			Number of Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Passengers.						
				M.	F.	Child- dren.				M.	F.	Child- dren.				M.	F.	Child- dren.				M.	F.	Child- dren.				
Great Britain	102	49,084	22,289	2,792	2,276	2,105	111	60,369	2,402	3,350	4,414	2,761	90	55,040	2,207	3,581	5,375	2,546	67	39,079	1,568	2,361	1,906	1,241				
British Colonies	304	75,983	5,152	10,511	1,017	723	339	76,910	5,731	4,431	958	712	221	40,163	3,181	2,623	659	451	307	59,457	3,639	7,690	671	546				
Foreign States	31	7,327	432	307	116	67	26	7,381	358	572	301	218	28	10,639	492	719	492	275	23	8,205	341	550	268	245				
Totals	437	131,394	7,873	13,643	3,409	2,895	476	146,656	8,591	8,353	5,673	3,691	339	105,842	5,870	6,923	7,016	3,272	397	106,741	5,548	10,541	2,845	2,032				

## OUTWARDS AND EMIGRATION.

	1853.										1854.										1855.										1856.									
	Passengers.					No. of Ships.	Passengers.					No. of Ships.	Passengers.					No. of Ships.	Passengers.					No. of Ships.	Passengers.					No. of Ships.										
	Tons.	Men.	Adults.	Child- dren.	Tons.		Men.	Adults.	Child- dren.	Tons.	Men.		Adults.	Child- dren.	Tons.	Men.	Adults.		Child- dren.	Tons.	Men.	Adults.	Child- dren.		Tons.	Men.	Adults.	Child- dren.	Tons.		Men.	Adults.	Child- dren.							
Great Britain	18	10,875	552	317	128	117	17	8,394	351	268	126	106	16	6,392	249	65	63	55	18	7,397	314	92	107	70																
British Colonies	368	98,698	6,067	8,106	1,696	1,410	382	102,892	5,579	3,124	1,168	743	254	65,058	4,111	2,597	1,121	594	332	79,337	4,310	3,027	1,549	725																
Foreign States	46	19,250	621	4	2	3	72	32,582	1,117	7	5	4	67	35,519	1,297	3	3	10	36	17,476	392	6	1	—																
Totals	432	128,923	7,240	8,427	1,826	1,530	471	143,868	8,047	3,403	1,299	843	357	106,969	5,567	2,655	1,187	659	396	104,210	5,216	8,125	1,657	795																

No. 4.

RETURN of IMMIGRATION and EMIGRATION at PORT ADELAIDE, during the Years  
1853 to 1856, inclusive.

	1853.		1854.		1855.		1856.	
	Immig-ration.	Emig-ration.	Immig-ration.	Emig-ration.	Immig-ration.	Emig-ration.	Immig-ration.	Emig-ration.
<b>GREAT BRITAIN—</b>								
Bristol - . . . . .	9	—	3	—	—	—	8	—
Dundee - . . . . .	—	—	6	—	15	—	—	—
Falmouth - . . . . .	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Glasgow - . . . . .	21	—	53	—	1	—	—	—
Grangemouth - . . . . .	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Guernsey - . . . . .	48	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hebrides - . . . . .	192	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jersey - . . . . .	—	—	199	—	—	—	—	—
Leith - . . . . .	1	—	—	—	15	—	2	—
Liverpool - . . . . .	1,375	72	2,401	88	3,120	—	357	—
London - . . . . .	4,525	502	6,609	396	7,396	168	587	269
Plymouth - . . . . .	558	—	276	—	340	—	1,756	—
Southampton - . . . . .	967	—	564	—	1,118	—	2,698	—
Swansea - . . . . .	—	3	—	—	—	15	—	—
<b>BRITISH COLONIES—</b>								
Ceylon, Madras, and Bombay - . . . . .	21	44	2	79	4	77	4	26
Curacao - . . . . .	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cape Town - . . . . .	33	—	—	—	—	—	8	—
Hongkong - . . . . .	1	—	—	—	—	—	5,641	—
Mauritius - . . . . .	290	13	—	5	2	17	7	4
Moulmain - . . . . .	—	76	—	—	—	—	—	2
New Zealand - . . . . .	—	66	—	55	2	61	—	—
New South Wales - . . . . .	159	275	211	50	96	96	44	234
Port Leichhardt - . . . . .	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Recherche Bay - . . . . .	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—
Singapore - . . . . .	315	82	102	1	38	2	289	6
Victoria - . . . . .	10,962	10,420	5,122	4,670	3,275	3,996	2,430	4,956
Van Diemen's Land - . . . . .	65	35	113	31	47	29	46	22
Western Australia - . . . . .	55	50	300	17	269	24	438	51
<b>FOREIGN PORTS—</b>								
Arracan - . . . . .	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bally - . . . . .	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	1
Batavia - . . . . .	7	1	5	14	31	12	7	2
Bremen - . . . . .	15	—	—	—	110	—	—	—
Bordeaux - . . . . .	7	—	3	—	—	—	4	—
Boston - . . . . .	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Callao - . . . . .	—	—	—	4	—	2	—	—
Cochin - . . . . .	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Gean - . . . . .	—	2	5	—	—	2	—	2
Gottenburgh - . . . . .	—	—	4	—	1	—	—	—
Hamburgh - . . . . .	335	—	1,076	—	1,327	—	840	—
Java - . . . . .	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lombok - . . . . .	—	—	—	2	3	—	—	—
Manilla - . . . . .	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	2
Monte Video - . . . . .	41	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shanghai - . . . . .	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sourabaya - . . . . .	76	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
San Francisco - . . . . .	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Valparaiso - . . . . .	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	—
Whampoa - . . . . .	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Macau - . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	232	—
<b>Totals - . . . . .</b>								
	20,128	11,648	17,358	5,467	17,211	4,501	15,418	5,577
	11,648	—	5,467	—	4,501	—	5,577	—
Excess of Immigration - . . . . .	8,480	—	11,791	—	12,710	—	9,841	—

SOUTH  
AUSTRALIA.

## No. 5.

COMPARATIVE RETURN of the OFFICIAL VALUE of IMPORTS into and EXPORTS from SOUTH AUSTRALIA, during the Years 1852 to 1856, inclusive.

		IMPORTS.											
From		1852.		1853.		1854.		1855.		1856.			
		£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.		
Great Britain	-	330,852	17 2	1,984,544	11 7	1,623,190	5 8	953,677	3 0	855,721	18 6		
British Colonies	-	131,801	16 0	412,960	8 6	304,882	2 4	323,232	4 0	428,147	10 4		
Foreign States	-	36,707	9 6	175,000	19 0	136,451	3 0	99,029	8 0	82,650	4 0		
Totals	-	499,362	2 8	1,873,003	19 1	2,054,433	9 0	1,370,938	15 0	1,366,529	12 10		
Imports re-exported	-	177,778	4 0	150,444	18 0	128,652	0 9	301,262	10 0	267,373	4 4		
Imports consumed in the Colony	-	321,583	18 8	1,722,559	1 1	1,925,771	8 3	1,069,676	5 0	1,099,156	8 6		
		EXPORTS.											
To		1852.		1853.		1854.		1855.		1856.			
		£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.		
Great Britain*	-	391,414	0 0	385,492	15 0	273,389	0 0	440,284	0 0	633,380	10 0		
British Colonies	-	520,743	1 0	460,914	17 0	546,777	0 9	536,906	10 0	1,029,855	18 5		
Foreign States	-	2,530	0 0	6,533	0 0	2,934	0 0	2,025	0 0	2,504	0 0		
Totals	-	914,677	1 0	852,940	12 0	823,104	0 9	989,215	10 0	1,665,740	8 6		
Imports re-exported	-	177,778	4 0	150,444	18 0	128,682	0 9	301,262	10 0	267,373	4 4		
Total Exports, the Produce of the Colony	-	736,899	17 0	731,595	14 0	694,422	0 0	687,953	0 0	1,398,367	4 1		

\* As it frequently occurs that the ships for Great Britain do not leave Port Adelaide until the commencement of the year succeeding that with the produce of which they are loaded, a return like the present (to the 31st December in each year), in which the value of the produce of one season is blended in uncertain proportions with that of another, is of little use for the purpose of estimating the value of the produce of successive years.





# 248 REPORTS EXHIBITING THE PAST AND PRESENT

SOUTH  
AUSTRALIA.

## No. 7.

COMPARATIVE RETURN of the ORDINARY REVENUE and EXPENDITURE for the Years 1853 to 1856, inclusive.

### REVENUE.

—	1853.		1854.		1855.		1856.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Customs - - -	171,299	3 11	161,294	11 4	129,501	10 10	152,135	19 3
Port and Harbour Dues -	—	—	106	16 9	889	9 9	2,048	4 1
Rents (exclusive of Land) -	1,072	19 9	825	15 0	1,141	0 0	1,133	4 5
Licences - - -	7,639	0 0	9,227	17 0	10,611	8 0	11,222	15 0
Taxes - - -	727	18 9	489	18 6	556	13 3	717	0 9
Postage - - -	8,684	19 5	7,477	4 11	7,841	6 8	8,925	11 6
Fines, Forfeitures, and Fees of Court.	4,429	3 1	5,114	12 3	5,789	19 11	7,740	19 2
Fees of Office - -	7,513	6 2	9,116	16 9	8,214	6 8	8,371	4 2
Government Vessels -	—	—	109	16 4	—	—	—	—
Sales of Government Property	1,971	17 11	931	4 8	1,021	6 8	2,005	1 9
Reimbursements in aid of Expenses.	969	12 7	3,011	4 10	3,892	5 1	2,002	10 1
Miscellaneous Receipts -	2,183	8 10	1,547	13 7	10,365	18 10	2,522	8 11
Interest, Exchange, &c. -	2,385	0 0	—	—	—	—	2,262	12 10
Gold Revenue - -	—	—	697	9 11	231	10 10	9	11 8
Port Elliot Railway - -	—	—	833	6 7	1,267	11 11	2,646	8 2
Telegraph - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	366	6 7
Loans - - -	—	—	104,655	5 0	45,700	0 0	207,900	0 0
Repayments from Immigration Fund	45,000	0 0	144,000	0 0	4,908	18 10	*413	12 1
Total - - -	253,896	10 5	449,429	13 5	231,933	7 3	415,323	10 6

### EXPENDITURE.

—	1853.		1854.		1855.		1856.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Establishments - -	49,619	10 0	116,278	18 5	177,536	7 9	149,520	6 2
Pensions, Retired Allowances, and Gratuities.	350	0 0	450	0 0	611	15 2	1,239	2 0
Revenue Services - -	5,229	12 6	—†	—	—†	—	—†	—
Administration of Justice -	536	0 7	729	12 6	808	14 9	955	19 0
Ecclesiastical - -	Discontinued.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Charitable Allowances - -	1,848	6 4	—†	—	—†	—	—†	—
Education - - -	7,468	9 9						
Hospitals - - -	3,040	2 2						
Police and Gaols - -	4,893	15 1						
Rent - - -	767	6 7						
Transport - - -	539	6 0	—†	—	—†	—	—	—
Conveyance of Mails - -	3,921	4 3						
Works and Buildings - -	4,566	19 8						
Roads, Streets, and Bridges -	38,823	5 0						
Miscellaneous - - -	26,648	5 6						
Interest - - -	535	10 0	15,650	0 0	15,358	2 10	19,719	9 9
Government Vessels - -	1,094	12 3	—†	—	—†	—	—†	—
Immigration - - -	3,000	0 0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total - - -	153,272	5 8	393,298	4 4	274,495	0 3	231,873	4 8

\* Repayment of expenses chargeable to Immigration Fund.

† Included in Establishments.

## No. 8.

STATEMENT showing the Amount of the REVENUE and EXPENDITURE of the PROVINCE  
for the Years 1851 to 1856, inclusive.

1851.				Amount of Revenue.			Expenditure.		
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Ordinary	-	-	-	127,046	18	1	143,981	10	5
Land Fund	-	-	-	95,511	16	11	41,524	10	5
Total	-	-	-	222,557	15	0	185,506	0	10

1852.				£ s. d.			£ s. d.		
Ordinary, 102,325 <i>l.</i> 4 <i>s.</i> 1 <i>d.</i>	-	-	-	122,036	6	6	104,006	5	7
Gold, 19,711 <i>l.</i> 2 <i>s.</i> 5 <i>d.</i>	-	-	-						
Land Fund	-	-	-						
Total	-	-	-	243,174	2	11	140,047	16	10

1853.				£ s. d.			£ s. d.		
Ordinary, 208,896 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> 5 <i>d.</i>	-	-	-	270,321	11	3	170,508	5	1
Aid from Land Fund, 45,000 <i>l.</i>	-	-	-						
Gold, 16,425 <i>l.</i> 0 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>d.</i>	-	-	-						
Land Fund	-	-	-	314,432	9	5	69,185	11	9
Grant to Ordinary Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	45,000	0	0
Total	-	-	-	584,754	0	8	284,783	16	10

1854.				£ s. d.			£ s. d.		
Ordinary, including Gold, 200,774 <i>l.</i> 8 <i>s.</i> 5 <i>d.</i>	-	-	-	449,429	13	5	393,288	4	4
Loans, 104,655 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i>	-	-	-						
Aid from Land Fund, 144,000 <i>l.</i>	-	-	-						
Land Fund	-	-	-	394,591	6	3	93,524	14	9
Grant to Ordinary Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	144,000	0	0
Total	-	-	-	844,010	19	8	630,812	19	1

1855.				£ s. d.			£ s. d.		
Ordinary, including Gold, 181,324 <i>l.</i> 8 <i>s.</i> 5 <i>d.</i>	-	-	-	186,233	7	3	274,495	0	3
Repayment from Immigration Fund, 4,908 <i>l.</i> 18 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>d.</i>	-	-	-						
Land Fund*	-	-	-						
Loans	-	-	-	258,356	13	3	163,077	7	4
Total	-	-	-	444,700	0	0	115,722	9	9
Total	-	-	-	490,290	0	6	533,294	17	4

1856.				£ s. d.			£ s. d.		
Ordinary, including Gold, 205,009 <i>l.</i> 18 <i>s.</i> 5 <i>d.</i>	-	-	-	205,423	10	6	231,873	4	8
Repayment from Immigration Fund, 413 <i>l.</i> 12 <i>s.</i> 1 <i>d.</i>	-	-	-						
Land Fund* (including Transfer 60,000 <i>l.</i> from Immigration Fund to Crown Moieties.)	-	-	-						
Loans	-	-	-	310,991	11	6	227,734	1	10
Total	-	-	-	207,900	0	0	220,542	9	9
Total	-	-	-	724,315	2	0	680,149	16	3

\* Exclusive of Land and Emigration Commissioners' accounts.

COMPARATIVE RETURN relative to the DISPOSAL of the CROWN LANDS of SOUTH AUSTRALIA, during the Years 1850 to 1856, inclusive.

Date.	Quantity of Land sold, in Acres.	Average Price per Acre.	Mode of Sale.	Total Amount of Purchase Money.		Proportion of Purchase Money received in each Year.
				Received in England.	Received in South Australia.	
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1850	{ 41,170	1 11 9½	Auction -	{ 1,314 10 0	{ 89,071 8 2	{ 90,385 18 2
	{ 23,179	1 0 0	Fixed price -			
1851	{ 40,192½	1 3 4½	Auction -	{ 1,098 3 0	{ 86,642 12 0	{ 88,740 15 0
	{ 42,397	1 0 0	Fixed price -			
1852	{ 33,911 1/3	1 7 3½	Auction -	{ 1,021 12 0	{ 98,069 8 0	{ 99,081 0 0
	{ 52,761	1 0 0	Fixed price -			
1853	{ 125,658 1/3	1 12 3½	Auction -	{ 800 0 0	{ 290,860 1 0	{ 291,660 1 0
	{ 87,663	1 0 2½	Fixed price -			
1854	{ 173,974 1/3	1 18 3½	Auction -	{ 729 8 0	{ 382,740 5 3	{ 383,469 13 8
	{ 39,951	1 2 0½	Fixed price -			
1855	{ 124,564 1/3	1 9 10½	Auction -	{ 880 8 0	{ 232,864 13 0	{ 233,745 1 0
	{ 47,046	1 0 3½	Fixed price -			
1856	{ 133,785 1/3	1 6 10½	Auction -	{ 400 0 0	{ 235,060 3 0	{ 235,460 3 0
	{ 53,666	1 0 9½	Fixed price -			

## No. 10.

RETURN of the Number of PLACES of WORSHIP of each DENOMINATION in SOUTH AUSTRALIA, specifying the ACCOMMODATION and average CONGREGATION of each, during the Years 1855 and 1856.

DENOMINATION.	Number of Places of Worship.		Adapted to contain.		Average Congregation.	
	1855.	1856.	1855.	1856.	1855.	1856.
Church of England - -	{ 26 *10 }	{ 28 *9 }	5,828	6,602	3,840	4,215
"    Rome - - -	{ 8 }	{ 11 *1 }	2,470	3,320	1,430	2,140
"    Scotland - -	{ 14 }	{ 14 }	750	750	200	200
Free Presbyterians - -	{ 5 *1 }	{ 6 }	1,504	1,760	1,158	1,205
Congregationalists (Independents and Baptists) - -	{ 24 *9 }	{ 29 *9 }	4,642	5,290	2,938	3,256
Wesleyans - - -	{ 45 *6 }	{ 38 *24 }	9,410	7,729	8,895	7,056
Bible Christians - -	{ 22 *6 }	{ 23 *4 }	2,830	2,870	1,695	1,665
Christians - - -	{ 4 }	{ 4 }	900	910	470	510
Primitive Methodists - -	{ 1 }	{ 2 }	250	550	90	350
Lutheran Church - -	{ 13 *3 }	{ 13 *6 }	3,178	3,688	1,950	2,621
Society of Friends - -	{ 1 }	{ 2 }	100	190	100	30
Jewish Congregation - -	{ 1 }	{ 1 }	140	140	50	60
Other denominations, and unspecified - - -	{ 2 }	{ 3 *1 }	230	670	200	405
Total - - -	{ 156 *35 }	{ 164 54 }	32,232	34,459	22,996	25,713

Total Number of Places of Worship for 1855, 191; and for 1856, 218.

\* Rooms and buildings temporarily used as places of worship.

† Three of these churches were without a minister during 1855 and 1856, but two have recently arrived.

The information contained in this Return has been obtained from the Ministers of the several Denominations, and may therefore be considered correct.

# STATE OF HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS. 251

No. 11.

SOUTH  
AUSTRALIA.

COMPARATIVE RETURN of SUNDAY SCHOOLS in the Province of SOUTH AUSTRALIA, and of the average Number of SCHOLARS attending them, during the Years 1846, 1847, 1848, 1850, 1853, 1854, 1855, and 1856.

Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars.				Total Average Number of Scholars.
		European.		Native.		
		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	
1846	24	560	511	38	31	1,140
1847	32	930	918	50	28	1,926
1848	46	1,300	1,205	40	18	2,563
1850	66	1,700	1,605	31	18	3,354
1853	59	1,509	1,565	32	9	3,115
1854	103	2,712	2,799	—	—	5,511
1855	114	3,263	3,886	—	—	6,649
1856	190	3,631	3,991	—	—	7,622

No Returns made up in 1849, 1851, and 1852.

The information in the above Return has been obtained from the various Ministers in the Province, and may therefore be presumed to be correct.

No. 12.

RETURN of the Number of DAY SCHOOLS in the Province to which GOVERNMENT AID has been afforded, and of CHILDREN attending the same, showing also the Amounts paid to the TEACHERS under Ordinances No. 11 of 1847, and Act No. 20 of 1851.\*

Years ending 31st December.	Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars.			Amount of Government Aid.
		Male.	Female.	Total.	
1849	27	540	308	848	£ 707 10 0
1850	64	1,188	679	1,867	1,556 6 0
1851	115	1,933	1,098	3,031	2,515 13 4
1852 {	101	1,355	1,106	2,461	827 8 4†
	69	1,832	1,461	3,293	3,089 15 10
1853	111	2,801	2,472	5,273	6,718 6 8‡
1854	125	3,008	2,456	5,464	8,538 15 0
1855	138	3,273	2,766	6,039	9,616 2 10
1856	147	3,594	2,922	6,516	8,979 0 2

\* Act No. 20 of 1851 came into force on the 1st May 1852.

† Paid under Ordinance No. 11 of 1847; total amount of aid in 1852, £3,117 4s. 2d.

‡ During the years 1852, 1854, and 1855, teachers received a gratuity of 50 per cent, and during 1856 of 25 per cent., which is included in the above amounts.

The Government possesses but very imperfect information respecting the number of Schools in the Colony, the teachers of which have not received aid from the State; they may, however, for 1856, be presumed to be about two-fifths of the whole number, with pupils in about the like proportion.

No. 13.

RETURN showing the Total Number of LETTERS and NEWSPAPERS passing through the Post in the Province of SOUTH AUSTRALIA, distinguishing SHIP from INLAND, during the Years 1850 to 1856, inclusive.

Years.	Number of Post Offices.	Letters.		Newspapers.		Total.		Income.	Expenditure.
		Ship.	Inland.	Ship.	Inland.	Letters.	Newspapers.		
1850	63	105,820	160,768	178,536	214,641	265,288	293,177	£ 5,413 9 6	£ 4,026 3 8
1851	72	122,901	241,694	216,557	301,065	364,595	517,722	6,805 5 10	4,843 17 5
1852	69	180,517	172,501	272,706	301,819	353,018	474,525	7,370 19 4	5,615 16 10
1853	62	233,450	182,923	292,306	210,412	416,373	502,718	8,684 19 5	7,641 8 8
1854	75	268,868	284,283	322,214	335,562	553,151	557,776	7,477 4 11	9,558 16 7
1855	87	270,778	405,509	328,766	466,275	676,287	795,041	7,841 6 8	15,032 17 5
1856	102	302,438	542,415	315,372	470,236	844,853	785,608	8,925 11 6	15,715 19 9

## No. 14.

RETURN of the NUMBER of PATIENTS treated in the GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL during the Years 1850 to 1856, inclusive.

YEARS.	Admitted on payment of Fees.	Admitted without Fees.	Discharged.	Died.	Fees of Admission.
1850	15	395	306	61	2s. per diem.
1851	25	388	291	69	"
1852	33	342	260	65	"
1853	78	270	275	63	"
1854	110	467	448	65	"
1855	64	542	472	81	"
1856	54	499	387	83	"

## No. 15.

RETURN of the NUMBER of PATIENTS confined in the LUNATIC ASYLUM during the Years 1850 to 1856, inclusive.

YEARS.	Admitted on payment of Fees.	Admitted without Fees.	Discharged.	Died.	Fees of Admission.
1850	1	8	9	2	2s. per diem.
1851	4	5	5	1	"
1852	7	11	5	1	"
1853	7	44	6	5	"
1854	6	52	15	7	"
1855	3	20	17	6	"
1856	7	63	29	4	"

## No. 16.

RETURN of the NUMBER of PUBLICANS' LICENCES granted in SOUTH AUSTRALIA from 1850 to 1856, inclusive.

YEARS.	Publicans' General Licences.		Wine and Beer Licences.		Spirits' Licences.		Total Amount.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.		
1850	197	4,925 0 0	1	12 0 0	12	60 0 0	4,967	0 0
1851	293	7,325 0 0	3	36 0 0	7	35 0 0	7,396	0 0
1852	235	5,975 0 0	3	36 0 0	6	30 0 0	5,941	0 0
1853	286	7,150 0 0	2	24 0 0	16	80 0 0	7,229	0 0
1854	324	8,100 0 0	1	12 0 0	36	180 0 0	8,292	0 0
1855	376	9,400 0 0	3	36 0 0	59	295 0 0	9,731	0 0
1856	395	9,875 0 0	10	120 0 0	68	340 0 0	10,835	0 0

## No. 17.

COMPARATIVE RETURN of PUBLIC HOUSES in the PROVINCE of SOUTH AUSTRALIA in the Years 1850 to 1856, inclusive.

LOCALITY.	Number in the Year.						
	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.
Adelaide	76	96	89	99	101	109	114
Port Adelaide and Albert Town	11	12	21	20	18	16	18
Country (including Port Lincoln)	110	185	125	167	205	251	263
Total	197	293	235	286	324	376	395

No. 18.

## RETURN OF REPUTED MINES in the PROVINCE at the close of the Year 1856.

NAME OF MINE OR LOCALITY.	Description.	Distance in a direct Line from Adelaide.	Bearings from Adelaide.
Adelaide -	Copper	12	N.E. by E.
Barossa (Royal Mining Company)	"	22	N.E.
Belvidere -	"	54	N. by E.
Ben Accord -	Copper	90	N. by E.
Breadalbane -	"	28	S.E. by S.
*Bremer Mines -	"	25	E.
*Burra Burra -	"	90	N. by E.
Chambers's Mine -	"	10	S.
*Charlton Mines -	Copper and Lead	136	N. by W.
Currency Creek Mine -	Copper	40	S. by E.
Dutton's Mine -	"	82	N. by E.
Emu Flats -	"	76	N. by W.
Enterprise Mining Company -	"	38	E. by N.
Franklin Harbour Mine -	"	130	N.W. by W.
Glencalbyn -	"	28	S.E. by E.
Glen Osmond -	Lead	4	S.E.
Greenock Creek Mine -	Copper	35	N.N.E.
*Kansmantoo -	"	25	E.S.E.
*Kapunda -	"	50	N.N.E.
Kapunda (North) -	"	50	N.N.E.
*Karkulito -	"	74	N. by E.
Lyndoch Valley -	"	28	N.E. by N.
Menkoo -	"	35	E.
Montacute -	"	10	E.N.E.
Mount Remarkable -	"	160	N. by W.
Morphett's (Section 1484) -	"	51	N.N.E.
Para Mine -	"	25	N.E. by N.
Paringa -	"	23	E.N.E.
Phoenix (Tohill's Gap) -	"	60	N.
Phillips's (Section 1507, Rapid Bay) -	Copper and Lead	48	S.S.W.
*Pine Hut -	Copper	50	N.E.
Poonawurra -	"	42	N.E.
Port Lincoln (Mount Liverpool) -	"	170	W.
*Presmimms -	"	29	E.S.E.
Prince Albert's Mine -	"	9	E.N.E.
Princess Royal -	"	82	N. by E.
Provincial Mining Association -	Lead	5	S.E.
*Reedy Creek -	Copper	35	E.N.E.
River's Edge -	Lead	9	E.
*Strathalbyn -	Copper and Lead	28	S.E. by S.
Union Mining Company -	Lead	4½	S.E.
Victoria -	Gold	10	E.N.E.
Wakefield -	Copper	70	N.
Wheat Acraman -	"	10	E.N.E.
" Barton -	"	50	N.N.E.
" Emma -	Silver Lead	—	—
" Fanny -	Copper	32	E.S.E.
" Fortune -	"	25	E.
" Friendship -	"	25	E.
" Gawler -	Lead	4	E.S.E.
" Grainger -	Silver Lead	5	S.E.
" Harmony -	Copper	25	E.
" Maria -	"	25	E.
" Margaret -	Lead	26	E.N.E.
" Mary -	Copper	25	E.S.E.
" Prosper -	"	25	E.
*Worthing -	"	14	S.S.W.
Yorke's Peninsula -	"	56	W.N.W.

NOTE.—Those marked \* were in work at this date.

## No. 19.

COMPARATIVE RETURN of MANUFACTORIES and WORKS in the Province of SOUTH AUSTRALIA for the Years 1850, 1853, 1854, and 1856.

Description of Work.	Number in			
	1850.	1853.	1854.	1856.
Book-Manufactories	8	1	1	8
Book-builders	8	2	1	16
Rolling-down Establishments	—	—	1	1
Breweries	16	16	23	34
Candle-makers	1	8	8	15
Cloth and Woollen Manufactury	—	—	—	—
Cook Manufactories	4	4	10	8
Flour Mills—Steam	17	23	62	62
Wind	5	5	5	5
Water	5	5	5	5
Foundries—Steam	8	—	—	5
Brass and Iron	4	—	—	5
Type	—	1	1	—
Ginger-beer makers	—	15	21	26
Shoemakers	3	2	2	2
Machine Manufactories	—	2	19	15
Malsters	2	10	10	9
Malting-makers	3	10	10	7
Organ-builders	1	1	1	1
Piano-forte-makers	1	1	1	1
Picture	2	1	5	2
Saw Mills	6	5	5	25
Ship-builders	—	—	—	—
Smelting Works	6	5	4	7
Soap and Tobacco Manufactories	—	—	7	8
Soap-makers	—	5	5	1
Soda-water makers	3	6	4	11
Tanneries	16	14	15	20
Watch and Clock-makers	5	20	27	20
Waterworks	3	3	3	3

No Returns were collected for the years 1851, 1852, and 1855.

## No. 20.

COMPARATIVE RETURN of the Quantity of LAND under Cultivation in the Years 1847, 1848, 1849, 1850, 1854, and 1856, inclusive.

Crops.	Acres under Cultivation in					
	1847.	1848.	1849.	1850.	1854.*	1856.
Wheat	25,920	29,767	35,185	41,807†	89,945‡	162,011‡
Barley	5,540	8,479‡	5,731‡	4,019‡	6,454‡	7,828
Oats	3,948‡	3,977‡	1,470‡	2,113	4,359‡	5,222
Maize	161‡	4,608‡	6‡	37‡	48‡	66‡
Potatoes	581	595‡	878	1,785‡	1,712	2,379
Garden and Orchard	893‡	1,300‡	1,497	1,372‡	2,674‡	4,148‡
Vineyard	198	319‡	197‡	284‡	409‡	753‡
Hay	—†	—	—	13,305‡	25,402‡	22,518‡
Other Crops	—†	—	—	—	361‡	587‡
Totals	36,440‡	43,911‡	44,983‡	64,728‡	129,699‡	203,432‡

\* No Returns were collected for the years 1851, 1852, 1853, and 1855.

† No Return was made of the number of Acres cropped with Hay prior to 1850.

‡ No Return was made of the Miscellaneous Crops prior to 1854.

## No. 21.

RETURN of STOCK in the COLONY, December 31st, 1856.

	Sheep.	Lambs.	Total Sheep and Lambs.	Cattle.	Horses.	Goats.	Pigs.
Running north of Adelaide, exclusive of those depasturing in the Hundreds and District Councils	546,082	131,445	747,727	66,557	2,569	1,677	27,504
Running in the South-eastern District, including those depasturing on the south sides of Lakes Victoria and Albert	431,891	118,462	537,555	80,185	2,874		
Running in the District of Port Lincoln, including Franklin Harbour	96,570	85,800	132,370	4,540	277		
Running on Yorke's Peninsula	65,000	16,000	82,000	930	168		
Running on the Murray, including the Hundred of the Murray	85,335	17,996	103,348	20,860	1,912		
Running on Finders, Kangaroo, and the Islands in Spencer's Gulf	8,527	2,500	10,527	—	—	1,677	27,504
Running within the Hundreds and District Councils, exclusive of the Hundred of the Murray	300,000	68,605	368,605	100,384	14,630		
Grand Total	1,531,435	411,908	1,962,468	272,746	27,260	1,677	27,504

NOTE.—The Hundred of the Murray being a narrow strip on both sides of the River, and occupied almost exclusively by the holders of the runs at the back of the Hundred, it is not possible to separate the stock depasturing there.



## No. 22.

RETURN of PASTURAGE LEASES granted under the Provisions of the ORDER in COUNCIL of the 19th day of June 1850.

*Leases granted for a Term of Fourteen Years for Lands without the Hundreds.*

Period from which the Leases take Date.			Number of Leases granted.	Extent of Land comprised in the Leases, in square Miles.	Annual Amount of Rent payable under the Leases.		
					£	s.	d.
1st July 1851	-	-	234	14,017	8,288	15	0
1st January 1852	-	-	8	304	152	0	0
1st July 1852	-	-	4	140	70	0	0
1st January 1853	-	-	9	453	226	10	0
1st July 1853	-	-	38	1,402	701	10	0
1st January 1854	-	-	48	2,068	1,034	0	0
1st July 1854	-	-	29	1,008	504	0	0
1st January 1855	-	-	16	739	369	10	0
1st July 1855	-	-	21	945	472	10	0
1st January 1856	-	-	44	1,868	934	0	0
1st July 1856	-	-	34	1,256	628	0	0
Total	-	-	485	24,200	13,380	15	0

Of the waste lands granted under pasturage leases, taking date from the 1st July 1851, 1,703½ square miles have been resumed—75½ for the purpose of sale, and 1,630 square miles for the purpose of creating hundreds. The reduction in the rental, consequent on the resumption of the lands, is 933l. 15s., making the total amount of rent receivable for the year 1856, 12,387l.

*Annual Leases granted for Lands within the Hundreds.*

Period for which the Leases were granted.		Number of Leases granted.	Extent of Land comprised in the Leases.	Amount of Rent received.		
				£	s.	d.
From 1st July 1851 to 30th June 1852	-	51	1,294	1,294	0	0
From 1st July 1852 to 30th June 1853	-	48	1,125	1,125	0	0
From 1st July 1853 to 30th June 1854	-	43	970	970	0	0
From 1st July 1854 to 30th June 1855	-	28	672	672	0	0
From 1st July 1855 to 30th June 1856	-	18	228	228	0	0
From 1st July 1856 to 30th June 1857	-	38	1,399	866	0	0
Total	-	221	5,688	5,155	0	0

The extent of land granted under annual leases, during the year 1856, has considerably increased, in consequence of six new hundreds being created in the County of Gawler.

## No. 23.

AVERAGE PRICE of FARM PRODUCE at ADELAIDE during the Years 1850 to 1856, inclusive.

Years.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Potatoes.	Hay.	Butter, Fresh.	Cheese.
	Per Bushel.	Per Bushel.	Per Bushel.	Per Ton.	Per Ton.	Per Pound.	Per Pound.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1850	3 10	4 0	4 6	5 10 0	3 0 0	1 6	0 9
1851	6 4	7 6	5 0	5 5 0	4 0 0	1 5	0 8½
1852	6 6	4 9	7 0	15 0 0	5 0 0	1 4	0 9½
1853	8 1½	8 0	10 6	17 0 0	7 5 0	2 0	1 0
1854	11 10½	9 1½	8 4½	35 0 0	9 5 6	2 3	1 5½
1855	15 6	7 6	7 0	23 15 0	7 12 0	2 2	1 0
1856	8 0	4 6	5 1	6 12 0	3 7 6	1 5½	0 7½

## No. 24.

RETURN of PRICES paid for BREAD and FRESH MEAT by the COMMISSARIAT at ADELAIDE, for the Years 1850 to 1856, inclusive.

Year.	Bread.	Fresh Meat.
1850	1½d. per lb.	1½d. per lb.
1851	1½d. per lb.	1½d. and 1½d. per lb.
1852	2d. per lb.	1½d. and 1½d. per lb.
1853	2½d., 2½d., and 3d. per lb.	2d., 4d., and 5d. per lb.
1854	3d. and 3½d. per lb.	5½d. and 4½d. per lb.
1855	3½d., 3½d., 4½d., and 2d. per lb.	5d., 4d., and 3½d. per lb.
1856	2½d., 2½d., and 2d. per lb.	4d. and 2½d. per lb.

## No. 25.

COMPARATIVE RETURN of the Number of OFFENDERS convicted in the SUPREME COURT of CRIMINAL JURISDICTION in SOUTH AUSTRALIA during the Years 1850 to 1856, inclusive.

OFFENCES.	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.
<b>FELONIES.</b>							
<b>OFFENCES AGAINST THE PERSON.</b>							
Murder - - - - -	1	3	3	2	1	3	—
Manslaughter - - - - -	—	1	4	5	1	4	7
Stabbing, cutting, or shooting, with intent to do some bodily harm.	5	9	2	4	4	3	2
Highway robbery - - - - -	5	5	3	2	4	1	—
Rape - - - - -	—	1	—	—	1	1	—
Wounding, with intent to prevent apprehension.	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
<b>OFFENCES AGAINST PROPERTY.</b>							
Burglary - - - - -	—	—	—	3	—	2	2
Stealing in dwelling-houses - - - - -	11	9	1	9	4	3	5
Burglariously breaking and entering ditto, and stealing therefrom.	3	4	—	—	—	—	—
Breaking and entering dwelling-houses, and stealing therefrom.	6	2	1	—	—	1	4
Sheep stealing - - - - -	—	3	1	—	1	—	—
Horse stealing - - - - -	5	7	1	8	5	6	3
Cattle stealing - - - - -	1	1	—	2	3	2	4
Receiving stolen goods - - - - -	4	15	2	2	4	3	1
Larceny - - - - -	21	1	6	4	9	7	14
Larceny by servant - - - - -	3	5	5	4	7	7	11
Larceny and former conviction - - - - -	2	4	—	8	3	—	—
Larceny of promissory note, &c. - - - - -	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Obtaining goods, &c., under false pretences	5	2	1	1	2	1	2
Stealing from the person - - - - -	—	7	2	8	2	3	4
Embezzlement by clerks, &c. - - - - -	—	4	—	1	1	3	2
<b>MISCELLANEOUS.</b>							
Breach of prison, and aiding, &c. - - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	12	4
Returning from transportation, &c. - - - - -	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Forgery - - - - -	4	8	1	2	2	—	—
Uttering forged notes, orders, &c., with intent to defraud.	4	3	—	—	1	3	8
<b>Total Felonies - - - - -</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>MISDEMEANORS.</b>							
Misprision of felony - - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Attempt to commit arson - - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Abduction of infant under sixteen years of age.	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Conspiracy - - - - -	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Perjury - - - - -	—	—	—	—	1	2	—
Concealment of birth - - - - -	—	—	—	1	—	1	1
Assault with intent to commit rape - - - - -	3	2	—	—	—	—	1
Fraud - - - - -	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
Assault and aggravated assaults - - - - -	7	3	2	7	5	7	7
Indecent assault - - - - -	—	—	—	—	4	2	1
Assault, &c., on infant under ten years of age	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total Misdemeanors - - - - -</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Total Convictions - - - - -</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>85</b>

## No. 26.

RETURN of the Number of CASES heard and determined in the MAGISTRATES' COURTS, ADELAIDE, during the Years 1850 to 1856, inclusive.

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Description of Cases,	During the Year						
	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.
<b>PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIONS.</b>							
Criminal Cases sent to Local Court -	4	40	32	37	31	41	32
Criminal Cases sent to Supreme Court -	133	114	56	87	55	64	93
Criminal Cases dismissed -	72	109	47	96	92	82	66
<b>SUMMARY JURISDICTION.</b>							
Information under Acts of Council -	420	478	372	740	1,046	954	478
Criminal trials, assaults, misdemeanors, &c. -	539	357	307	137	118	193	208
Drunkenness -	388	361	476	750	969	834	650
Cases on the Civil Side -	1,620	2,977	1,125	613	898	1,596	2,318
	3,176	4,455	2,415	2,460	3,239	3,744	3,925

## No. 27.

RETURN of the Number of FIATS in INSOLVENCY issued in the Province of SOUTH AUSTRALIA during the Years 1850 to 1856, inclusive.

	Number in the Year						
	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.
Issued on the Petition of Creditors -	9	26	23	2	9	10	45
" " Imprisoned debtors -	17	31	15	4	8	16	27
" " Debtors at large -	22	49	15	1	1	6	16
Totals -	48	106	53	7	18	32	88

## No. 28.

COMPARATIVE RETURN showing the Number and Nature of WRITS which passed through the SHERIFF'S OFFICE during the Years 1850 to 1856, inclusive.

Year.	Nature of Writs.							Totals.
	Capias ad Satisfaciendum.	Capias.	Fieri Facias.	Habere Facias Possessionem.	To levy Fines.	Attachment for Contempt.	Execution on the Body.	
1850	52	27	94	3	2	—	1	179
1851	67	54	124	6	—	5	—	256
1852	19	47	36	10	1	3	—	116
1853	13	30	9	7	—	3	1	63
1854	15	41	18	5	—	—	1	80
1855	84	26	64	9	{ Writ of Injunction }	2	—	135
1856	47	21	117	14		2	4	201

## No. 29.

RETURN of the AMOUNT of MORTGAGES on LAND in the PROVINCE of SOUTH AUSTRALIA, registered during the Years 1850 to 1856, inclusive.

Year.	Amounts lent on									Totals.		
	Town Lands.			Country Lands.			Town and Country Lands.					
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1850	61,455	4	0	76,647	9	8	2,520	8	1	140,650	1	9
1851	60,837	13	4	123,335	0	11	13,595	9	10	197,788	4	1
1852	23,739	10	1	55,465	2	2	28,182	1	3	107,386	13	6
1853	40,790	14	0	139,544	2	1	20,888	9	8	201,223	5	9
1854	102,885	11	8	254,004	13	10	15,039	0	0	371,929	5	1
1855	75,499	3	4	267,476	9	11	2,279	3	4	345,254	16	7
1856	82,564	0	0	545,098	0	0	10,975	0	0	638,637	0	0

COMPARATIVE RETURN of LIABILITIES secured by BILLS of SALE, JUDGMENTS, and WARRANTS of ATTORNEY, registered during the Years 1850 to 1856, inclusive.

Year.	Securities.									Totals.		
	Bills of Sale.			Judgments.			Warrants of Attorney.					
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1850	18,014	12	4	10,358	11	10	7,809	1	11	36,182	6	1
1851	55,752	9	7	4,877	6	8	10,001	16	9	70,631	13	0
1852	29,501	8	7	186	8	4	765	1	9	30,452	18	8
1853	23,207	11	5	2,500	0	0	3,015	2	4	28,722	13	9
1854	31,023	3	4	—	—	—	6,353	0	0	37,376	3	4
1855	70,213	14	10	19,719	2	0	2,775	0	0	92,707	16	10
1856	134,788	16	1	2,450	8	5	23,496	0	0	160,735	4	4

RETURN showing ELECTORAL DISTRICTS and Number of REGISTERED ELECTORS.

Number of District.	Name of District	Number of Names enrolled.	
		House of Assembly.	Legislative Council.
1	City of Adelaide	3,391	2,181
2	Port Adelaide	593	455
3	West Torrens	886	578
4	Yatala	1,171	729
5	Gumeracka	549	313
6	East Torrens	935	693
7	The Start	861	578
8	Noarlunga	529	349
9	Mount Barker	1,006	691
10	Onkaparinga	677	480
11	Encounter Bay	567	353
12	Barossa	988	685
13	The Murray	71	23
14	Light	998	660
15	Victoria	522	142
16	The Barra and Clare	1,435	728
17	Flinders	373	125
Totals		15,352	9,773

RETURN showing the REVENUE and EXPENDITURE of MUNICIPAL BODIES and DISTRICT COUNCILS during the Years 1855 and 1856.

1855.									
NAME.	Revenue.			Expenditure.					
	Local Revenue.	Aid from Government.	Total.	Roads, Streets, and other Local Improvements.	Official Salaries, Legal and Other Expenses, &c.	Total.			
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.			
Municipal Corporations—									
City of Adelaide	16,218 14 1	7,011 2 9	23,229 16 7	14,172 17 9	4,796 16 3	18,969 14 2			
Town of Kensington and Norwood	718 14 8	705 17 9	1,423 11 4	1,284 19 1	192 1 7	1,476 19 8			
District Councils (31 in number)	15,405 10 8	9,162 15 9	24,567 5 0	17,247 19 4	8,989 3 11	26,236 17 4			
General Totals	32,341 28 5	16,878 15 5	49,219 14 0	32,507 5 2	14,987 5 0	47,494 11 2			
1856.									
NAME.	Revenue.			Expenditure.					
	Local Revenue.	Aid from Government.	Total.	Roads, Streets, and other Local Improvements.	Official Salaries, Legal and Other Expenses, &c.	Total.			
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.			
Municipal Corporations—									
City of Adelaide	13,208 15 4	10,187 10 8	23,395 0 7	19,315 30 10	4,071 10 4	23,387 19 8			
Town of Port Adelaide	—	2,000 0 0	2,000 0 0	2,179 17 8	896 16 8	3,075 12 2			
Town of Kensington and Norwood	858 8 0	553 14 0	1,411 19 0	1,460 18 7	275 10 10	1,736 9 5			
Town of Glenelg	531 5 0	641 0 0	1,172 5 0	643 15 0	172 10 7	815 5 7			
District Councils (42 in number)	13,142 19 4	12,907 0 4	26,049 5 11	20,216 17 4	5,518 10 3	25,734 17 7			
General Totals	30,699 17 4	27,691 17 2	58,390 5 8	40,345 5 2	14,772 15 4	55,117 19 6			

## No. 33.

RETURN of the Number of GOLD LICENCES issued, and of the AMOUNT of FEES received thereon, during the Years 1852 to 1856, inclusive.

DATE.	Number of Licences.	Amount.
		£ s. d.
Year ending 31st December 1852 - - -	1,212	1,821 0 0
Year ending 31st December 1853 - - -	476	714 0 0
Year ending 31st December 1854 - - -	588	557 0 0
Year ending 31st December 1855 - - -	842	421 0 0
Year ending 31st December 1856 - - -	358	179 0 0

NOTE.—Gold Licences are issued monthly, and terminate on the last day of each calendar month. Up to the month of November 1854, inclusive, the fee charged was thirty shillings; it was then reduced to ten shillings, the reduction taking effect in the month of December.

## No. 34.

METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER from JANUARY to DECEMBER 1856, kept at the GOVERNMENT OFFICES, VICTORIA SQUARE.

Month.	Time.	Barometer.			Thermometer.			Rain.
		Inches.			Degrees.			Inches.
		Maxi- mum.	Mean.	Mini- mum.	Maxi- mum.	Mean.	Mini- mum.	
January - - -	{ 10½ a.m. 3½ p.m.	30'26 30'20	29'98 30'00	29'68 29'68	89 101	76'61 76'96	68 71	0'66
February - - -	{ 10½ a.m. 3½ p.m.	30'11 30'11	29'92 29'91	29'64 29'64	88 86	74'76 76'76	68 66	1'03
March - - -	{ 10½ a.m. 3½ p.m.	30'23 30'23	30'06 30'03	29'90 29'84	87 98	75'87 81'54	69 68	0'31
April - - -	{ 10½ a.m. 3½ p.m.	30'47 30'45	30'01 30'02	29'30 29'54	80 86	67 69	58 61	3'16
May - - -	{ 10½ a.m. 3½ p.m.	30'36 30'35	30'08 30'06	29'81 29'72	64 66	61'2 60'96	52 54	2'10
June - - -	{ 10½ a.m. 3½ a.m.	30'70 30'70	29'88 29'91	29'61 29'60	62 60	57 56	52 52	4'24
July - - -	{ 10½ a.m. 3½ p.m.	30'22 30'20	30'01 30'00	29'66 29'67	59 61	53'23 53'34	50 49	1'59
August - - -	{ 10½ a.m. 3½ p.m.	30'32 30'32	29'927 29'893	29'51 29'40	68 68	57'46 54'72	53 53	1'91
September - - -	{ 10½ a.m. 3½ p.m.	30'30 30'32	29'94 29'92	29'61 29'60	64 72	60'32 62	57 57	1'26
October - - -	{ 10½ a.m. 3½ p.m.	30'36 30'32	29'93 29'89	29'58 29'59	77 76	63 67	58 57	1'87
November - - -	{ 9½ a.m. 6 p.m.	30'119 30'092	29'906 29'867	29'574 29'457	87 91	70'3 67'3	58 52	0'477
December - - -	{ 9½ a.m. 6 p.m.	30'199 30'162	29'928 29'884	29'694 29'683	95'3 89'0	67'0 68'8	54 58	0'264
Total rain - - -		18'671 inches.						

NOTE.—The observations for November and December having been taken at different hours of the day from those of the first ten months, the mean for the whole year cannot be given.

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## No. 35.

RETURN showing the GENERAL CONDITION of SOUTH AUSTRALIA at the close of each Year from 1840 to 1856, inclusive, in reference to the Amount of POPULATION at those Periods.

Year.	Total Number of Inhabitants of the Province.	Number of Inhabitants in the Municipality of Adelaide.	Number of Inhabitants in the Rural Districts.	Number of Public Houses in Adelaide, Port Adelaide, and Albert Town.	Number of Public Houses in the Country.	Number of Convicts in the course of the Year for Crimes and Misdemeanors in the Supreme Court.	Number of Convicts in the course of the Year for Crimes and Misdemeanors in the Police Magistrate's Court, Adelaide.	Number of Civil Cases heard and determined in the Local Court, Adelaide.	Number of Cases heard and determined in the Year for Crimes, Misdemeanors, and Civil Cases, Magistrate's Courts, Adelaide.	Number of Flour Mills.	Number of Manufactories.	Number of Acres of Land in Cultivation.	Value of Exports of Colonial Produce.	Amount of Ordinary Revenue for each Year.	Amount of Ordinary Government Expenditure for each Year.	Amount of Land Revenue.	Amount of Land Expenditure.
1840	14,510	8,489	6,121	70	57	47	—	—	—	—	4	2,503	15,550	£ 30,190	£ 169,966	£ —	£ —
1841	—	—	—	67	38	37	—	—	—	—	—	6,722	31,826	£ 26,720	£ 104,471	£ —	£ —
1842	—	—	—	44	37	36	—	—	—	—	—	19,790	29,079	£ 22,074	£ 54,414	£ —	£ —
1843*	17,366	6,107	11,259	34	33	31	—	—	—	16	31	28,690	66,160	£ 24,142	£ 29,432	£ —	£ —
1844	18,959	—	—	37	33	21	304	—	1,009	21	35	26,918	82,568	£ 27,878	£ 29,453	£ —	£ —
1845*	22,390	7,413	14,977	45	40	22	462	—	1,306	24	69	28,232	131,800	£ 36,182	£ 32,069	£ —	£ —
1846	25,893	—	—	58	60	40	570	487	1,328	26	41	33,252	287,059	£ 48,017	£ 37,907	£ —	£ —
1847	31,153	—	—	66	66	31	574	389	1,454	31	36	36,440	275,115	£ 67,027	£ 58,979	£ —	£ —
1848	38,056	—	—	77	89	45	483	853	1,617	35	32	48,911	465,878	£ 82,911	£ 80,129	£ —	£ —
1849	52,004	—	—	82	128	116	670	1,282	2,492	—	—	54,983	545,039	£ 146,093	£ 130,304	£ —	£ —
1850*	63,700	14,577	49,123	87	110	93	754	1,620	3,176	27	108	64,728	540,962	£ 127,046	£ 143,981	£ —	£ —
1851	66,438	—	—	108	185	103	634	2,977	4,435	—	—	—	736,808	£ 122,036	£ 69,104,096	£ —	£ —
1852	69,563	—	—	110	125	77	859	1,125	2,415	40	140	—	713,640	£ 270,321	£ 37,170,398	£ —	£ —
1853	78,944	—	—	119	167	73	1,331	613	4,650	60	210	129,062½	694,422	£ 449,429	£ 57,391,288	£ —	£ —
1854	92,545	—	—	119	205	69	1,796	898	3,280	—	—	—	666,293	£ 231,933	£ 39,860,217	£ —	£ —
1855*	96,982	18,580†	67,560†	123	251	77	—	1,586	3,628	—	—	—	—	£ 413,023	£ 67,452,415	£ —	£ —
1856	104,708	—	—	132	263	85	—	2,316	3,744	70	228	203,423	1,264,504	£ 413,023	£ 67,452,415	£ 310,991	£ 102,778

\* Scraping as regards the years marked † in which the census was taken, the numbers have been estimated.

† Including Town, and from Crown money of Land Fund, and Gold Revenue:—Gold Revenue in 1852, 19,711; 2s. 2d.; 1853, 14,415; 0s. 10s.; 1854, 877; 0s. 11d.; 1855, 231; 10s. 10d.; 1856, 20; 11s. 8d. Loans and aid from Land Fund, 1853, 45,000†; 1854, 248,635†; 1855, 45,700†; 1856, 207,000.

‡ On 31st March 1855, date on which census was taken.

§ Exclusive of Land and Excise Commissioners' accounts.

Enclosure 2 in No. 33.

Magnetic Telegraph Department, Chief Office, Adelaide,  
September 22, 1857.SOUTH  
AUSTRALIA.  
Encl. 2 in No. 33.

SIR,

AGREEABLY to your request I have the honour to furnish your Excellency with a brief report on the introduction and progress of the magnetic telegraph in this province, together with other matters connected with the department over which I have the honour to preside. It affords me the more pleasure to comply with your Excellency's command from my knowledge of the deep interest you take in the prosecution of all public works having for their object the development of our natural resources, and also because I deem it just matter of gratification, auguring well for the future prosperity of the colony, that so young a community, barely passed its infancy, should have taken such active steps in the formation of railways and telegraphs. Such works may be justly regarded as the *sine qua non* of advancement, the pioneers of progress, and no nation, no colony, can become great that possesses them not.

## 1st. Existing Lines.

There are at the present time two lines of telegraph in operation, having an aggregate length of thirty-nine miles.

The line from Adelaide to the port and sea-coast, about ten and a half miles, was commenced at the latter end of December 1855, and opened in the month of February following; the wires are carried over ground from Adelaide to the port by the side of the railway, and under ground in iron pipes from the port to the sea coast, a length of 700 yards of submarine cable, a portion of that laid under the Mediterranean, being laid under the creek. Six-wire underground cable is also laid from the Adelaide railway terminus to the telegraph office in King William Street. The overground portion of the line is furnished with four wires, the subterranean and submarine cables consist of six wires. In the selection of timber for this line I was careful to use that which appeared to be the least liable to the attack of white ants; I have planted either Swan River mahogany or Singapore cedar, squared, well painted, and charred, and tarred for five feet from the base. The lines are insulated by Walker's double cone white porcelain insulators.

The erection of the north line to Gawler Town was sanctioned by the Legislature in the month of March last year; it was commenced in January, and opened on the 14th of April following. Length, including a branch to the Dry Creek Stockade, twenty-eight and a half miles.

The wire keeps the side of the railway as far as the Gawler Town terminus, and is thence extended three quarters of a mile into Murray Street, where a neat telegraph office has been erected. I advised this extension into the town, because I have ever found it advisable to place the telegraph office as nearly as possible in the business centre of a town.

Round peppermint gum posts, sixteen or seventeen feet long, from Kangaroo Island, painted, charred, and tarred, have been used along the line of railway, and square Baltic timber, twenty-two feet long, for the extension into Gawler Town. Two wires are suspended throughout.

The cost of this line, exclusive of the station at Gawler, was little over 55*l*. per mile, including instruments and fittings for seven stations. This is the cheapest line that has yet been erected in the Australian colonies. It was carried out by day labour, and not by contract, as is usual.

## 2d. Works in Progress.

In the month of March 1856 I had the honour, in a letter addressed to your Excellency, to set forth the advantages that would result from the establishment of telegraphic communication with Victoria and the neighbouring colonies, and at the same time expressed my opinion that the work could be carried out for 50*l*. or 60*l*. per mile.

A correspondence on the subject was opened with Victoria, and in the month of July following I proceeded by your Excellency's command to Melbourne, for the purpose of facilitating the negotiations then pending between the two Governments, and having received an assurance of co-operation on the part of Victoria, I returned overland in order to select the best route for the projected line, and in the month of October had the honour to lay my report before this Government.

In accordance with my estimate the sum of 20,500*l*. was voted *non. con.* by the late Legislature, and the work was actively commenced in April last, and is now, I am glad to say, fast progressing towards completion. The contract for the erection of the line was taken by Mr. Walter Thompson at the rate of 40*l*. per mile, the Government finding wire and other material. These as well as the instruments are supplied by Messrs. Meyer and Co., of Melbourne. On the Victorian side they are pushing forward their section with equal vigour, and there is reason to believe that the communication between the two capitals, a distance of 700 miles, will be completed in March next.

Our portion of the line will cost, with instruments for six stations, about 60*l*. per mile (which includes, it should be remembered, ten miles of submarine cable), and the vote, it is confidently expected, will be ample for the building of stations at the following places along the line; viz., Willunga, Port Elliott, Goolwa, Gnichen Bay, Mount Gambier, in

SOUTH  
AUSTRALIA.

South Australia; in Victoria there will be a station at Portland, Belfast, Warnambool, Hexham, Raglan (near Fiery Creek), Ballarat, Geelong, and Melbourne.

A line is in course of erection to connect Melbourne and Sydney, embracing Castlemaine, Sandhurst, Albury, &c., and a submarine line from Cape Otway to Cape Grim, shortly to be laid down, will unite Launceston and Hobarton in the general scheme, and thus complete the electrical federation of the four colonies.

Mr. McGowan, for whom I entertain a sincere regard, and whose ability as a telegraphist I have had many opportunities of testing, agrees with me in almost every detail, and one system will, I believe, be adopted throughout. In New South Wales there was at first a strong feeling in favour of Heuley's magnetic instrument, and by request I furnished that Government with my opinion as to the relative merits of the magnetic needle instrument and Morse's recording instrument, which I have reason to think resulted in the latter being decided on. As I introduced Heuley's instrument into this colony it may perhaps be well for me here to explain my reasons for doing so, and also why I now recommend the use of Morse's on the line to Melbourne, &c.

I was induced to adopt Heuley's instrument before coming to this colony chiefly on account of its simplicity, and also because I considered that on short lines it was by far the least expensive in working, and equally as accurate in the hands of proficient operators as the recording instrument, whilst as a needle instrument it was unrivalled and very expeditious. Where, however, the lines extend to great length, and where there is divided authority, it becomes a matter of consequence, in case of error, to be able to trace its source, whether committed by the transmitter or reader, and this the recording system effects. In practice, with equally expert and accomplished operators, I believe as many errors occur with one as with the other. Now that Morse's instrument is to be used in all the other colonies, it is manifest that it can be worked much more economically than if but one colony used it.

*3d. Works projected.*

I have ventured to place under this head a project that has for some time occupied my earnest attention. Before I left England I wrote about it, and now I see the day is not far distant when our electric union with Europe, and in a word, with the civilized world, will be *en fait accompli*.

In May last a draft of a bill having for its object the investing an English company with the powers necessary for the construction and working of lines of telegraph to connect the Australian colonies *via* India with England was placed in my hands, and duly reported on by me in a letter to the Honourable the Commissioner of Public Works, dated May 29th. In that report I have urged the importance of our giving every encouragement to a scheme, planned by gentlemen of high standing in the commercial world, and well known as the projectors of the Mediterranean and European and Indian junction lines, that would place us in almost instantaneous communication with the whole world.

The extension to India is now being made. A message can now be sent from London to Ragusa on the Adriatic; and the Austrian Government some time since concluded contracts for extending their lines from Ragusa to Alexandria, including *en route* Corfu, Zante, and Candia. From Alexandria it was to be immediately extended to Seleucia by way of Jaffa and Beyrout.

From Seleucia the European and Indian Junction Telegraph Company, having guaranteed interest from the British Government and the Honourable East India Company, will continue the line to Aleppo and along the Valley of the Euphrates to Kurnah at the head of the Persian Gulf. A submarine cable is to be laid along the Gulf, thence to Kurrachee, where it will unite with the Indian lines, now 4,000 miles in extent.

The Australian extension from Singapore will be across the Straits of Malacca to Sumatra, thence to Java (including Batavia), and threading the Islands Bali, Sombok, Sumbawa, Flores, and Timor, would join the mainland of Australia not far from Port Essington, and thence towards the eastern coast to Sydney, where it would meet the colonial lines now in course of erection.

In the draft of the Bill submitted to me, it is stated that the work is to be completed by the end of the year 1862.

The cost of the line will much depend on the nature of the country traversed, the price of labour, number of wires, and other circumstances; but presuming that the Australian subsidy would be proportionably borne by the several colonies, I estimate the annual cost to this colony at not more than 4,000*l.*, a small sum for so great an advantage. I have extended my remarks to this length, because I see that in New South Wales a misapprehension exists as to cost, and that it is there supposed that in the event of the work being carried out it would necessitate the reduction or total withdrawal of the subsidy for the steam postal service.

*4th. Business on existing Lines.*

The next point on which I would report is the amount of business done on the Port and North lines, and I must here call to your remembrance, that during the year 1856 there was, in addition to the Government line to the port, a private line also in operation, and that the former was open for little more than ten months only. The private line closed in the month of February of the present year, and I have in the following statement shown the monthly receipts for this year.



## RECEIPTS (not including Value of Messages on Public Service).

SOUTH  
AUSTRALIA.

1856.	February 18th to December 31st	North Line.	Port Line.	TOTAL.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
		—	366 6 7	366 6 7
1857.	January - - - - -	—	60 16 6	60 16 6
	February - - - - -	—	80 16 2	80 16 2
	March - - - - -	—	60 12 9	60 12 9
	April - - - - -	12 5 2	69 2 5	81 7 7
	May - - - - -	27 14 6	68 3 5	95 17 11
	June - - - - -	38 18 10	88 2 1	127 0 11
		78 18 6	425 13 4	504 11 10

I estimate the receipts for the present year at 1,200*l.*, to which should be added 500*l.*, the real value of the Government and railway messages, on which no charge is made. The probable expenditure for the same period will be about 1,400*l.* The cash statement for the year will therefore stand thus:—

## PROBABLE CASH STATEMENT for 1857.

Expenditure.	Receipts.
Probable Expenditure - - - - - £ s. d.	Actual Receipts, estimated at - £ s. d.
Balance - - - - - 1,400 0 0	Estimated value of messages on service - - - - - 500 0 0
	£1,700 0 0

The number of messages, however, more clearly exhibits the real utility of the telegraph and the work performed. I find the number to have been as follows:—

1856. February 18th to December 31st - 14,738 messages.

1857. January 1st to June 30th - 16,132 "

Total - - 30,870 " in 16½ months.

By a report published in Victoria, I find the line from Melbourne to Williams Town was completed in February 1854, and to Geelong on December 5th of the same year. The extension to Queenscliff was opened on January 30th, 1850, and a branch to Sandridge was erected in 1855, making an aggregate length of 72 miles.

The number of messages on these lines was as follows:—

1854. March 1st to December 31st - - - - 3,869 messages.

1855. The whole year - - - - - 12,241 "

1856. Ditto - - - - - 13,174 "

Total number of messages - 29,284

Since then, two lines, one from Geelong to Ballarat, and another from Melbourne to Sandhurst, have been opened, making in all 250 miles, and the number of messages have consequently increased; the number transmitted during the first six months of this year being 26,480. Here, in the same period, and with only 10½ miles open for 3½ months, and 39 the remaining 2½, the number was 16,132.

## 5th. Meteorological.

In the month of November last year I commenced series of meteorological observations, based on the system adopted by the British Meteorological Society. Similar observations are being carried on in Victoria, where there are about eleven stations under the able superintendence of Mr. Brough Smythe, of the Crown Lands Department; and in New South Wales, under the Colonial Astronomer, Mr. Scott, who has, I believe, ten or more stations. To increase the sphere of our operations in this colony I have invoked the pecuniary aid of the Government, and on my recommendation the sum of 300*l.* has been placed on the estimates for next year, which will enable me to provide ten or twelve stations with instruments. I had the honour a few days since to furnish your Excellency with a Meteorological Summary to June 30th.

My astronomical duties have been in abeyance, and nothing beyond the calculation, of the solar eclipses of last year and the present, and an occultation of Mars by the moon has been done.

I have, &c.

His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief,

CHARLES TODD,

&c. &c. &c.

Observer and Superintendent of Telegraphs, S. A.

SOUTH  
AUSTRALIA.

## Enclosure 3 in No. 33.

RETURN OF THE NUMBER OF LUNATICS treated in the ASYLUM and HER MAJESTY'S GAOL, showing the Sum received for Fees, Amount of Expenditure for Medicines, Medical Comforts, Provisions, &c. from 1st January to 31st December 1856.

Class of Diseases.	Remaining in January 1856.				State admitted.				Daily Average Number of Lunatics during the Period.	Fees received in	Amount received as Fees.	Amount of Expenditure for				Total Amount.	Remarks.	
	Without Payment of Fees.		On Payment of Fees.		Without Payment of Fees.		On Payment of Fees.					Medical Comforts.	Previous and Light.	Bedding, Clothing, and Sundries.				
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.										
Dementia	6	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	M.	F.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	443 13 3			
"	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	M.	F.	18 10 0	07 6 11	150 7 3	3 6 6	142 16 6			
"	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	M.	F.	2 16 0	04 14 0	43 5 6	13 6 0	142 1 6			
"	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	M.	F.	17 5 0	23 7 4	89 7 0	13 11 10	143 6 2			
"	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	M.	F.	17 5 0	07 17 4	90 15 5	46 14 3	186 7 11			
"	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	M.	F.	41 4 0	23 5 6	84 19 6	112 5 4	647 13 10			
"	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	M.	F.	16 4 0	23 5 6	85 12 4	13 15 10	126 1 6			
"	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	M.	F.	14 3 0	24 18 2	91 12 8	3 0 0	167 14 10			
"	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	M.	F.	65 12 0	20 6 6	35 2 7	143 12 5	207 16 3			
"	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	M.	F.	10 12 0	20 6 6	35 10 7	3 0 0	141 3 4			
"	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	M.	F.	3 2 0	24 17 6	23 6 10	—	135 4 0			
"	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	M.	F.	17 10 0	22 14 0	92 16 3	36 16 1	186 4 10			
Total	63	29	3	1	63	15	3	—	—	—	104 14 0	418 15 7	1,320 14 11	444 16 10	2,080 2 4			
										Add. Cost of Medicines supplied from Adelaide Hospital							43 0 2	
										Deduct, Cost of Rations for Eleven Servants							2,135 6 4	
																	145 0 0	
										Total Cost for Lunatics							£ 1,948 3 4	
																	32 16 6	
																	£ 1,980 0 0	
																	0 1 01	

WILLIAM GOOSE,  
Acting Superintendent.



WESTERN  
AUSTRALIA.

No. 34.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

No. 34.

COPIES of DESPATCHES from Governor KENNEDY to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 39.)

Government House, Perth, April 13, 1857.

(Received June 12, 1857.)

Sir,

1. I HAVE the honour to transmit the duplicate copy of the annual Blue Book for 1856, and to offer the following remarks thereon.

## REVENUE.

2. *Customs.* Under this head there has been an increase of 6,116*l.* 0*s.* 5*d.* in the year 1856, as compared with the former year, 1855. This increase may be accounted for as follows:—An increased tariff; quantity of spirits and tobacco taken out of bond in June and July, anticipating such increase; by better Customs regulations; and, finally, by the increased prosperity and expenditure of the people.

3. The revenue from ad valorem duty is 1,186*l.* in excess of 1855, attributable partly to an increase of one per cent. import duty, but mainly to increased consumption.

4. Under the head of "Sugar" there has been a falling off in 1856, compared with 1855, of 970*l.* I attribute this to a deficient supply in the market, in consequence of the accidental withdrawal of the usual transport between Singapore and this colony.

5. *Harbour Dues.* An increase of 157*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.* appears under this head. The present rate of dues was in operation for seven months only of 1855.

6. *Land Sales.* There has been a decrease under this head of 441*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.* as compared with 1855, but the quantity sold in 1856 is much in excess of any other year, and exhibits the strongest evidence of the sound progress of the colony.

7. *The Land Revenue* derived from pastoral and tillage leases at the same time shows an excess in 1856, as compared with 1855, to the extent of 407*l.* 15*s.* Agricultural operations have been extended, and fresh land taken up for grazing purposes. For the first time in the history of the colony, the produce of the harvest is believed to be fully equal to the consumption of the people.

8. An increase will be observed under the heads of "Transfer Duties," "Auction Duties," and "Licences."

9. *Postages.* The system of official franking having been abolished, an increase of 951*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* is shown. The actual increase, however, may be estimated at about 200*l.*, the remaining portion being the proceeds of stamps, &c. on official correspondence. The franking system was abolished 1st January 1856.

10. An increase of 250*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* is shown under the head of "Judicial Fines and Fees."

11. An increase of 54*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* as "Fees of Office," arises from an increase of public business.

12. *Sale of Government Property.* Under this head is shown an increase of 238*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.*, arising from the sale of cast police horses, and horses no longer required for Survey Department, in consequence of a change of system in providing transport for field surveyors.

13. *Parliamentary Grant.* The Parliamentary Grant from the 1st April 1856, previous to which period the Governor's salary, which was chargeable on that grant, was drawn in England, therefore no sums have been drawn from the Commissariat chest in 1856.

14. *Loan from Western Australian Bank.* Towards the close of 1854 the finances of the colony became embarrassed from excessive expenditure, and it was found necessary, in order to carry on the public service, to borrow from the Western Australian Bank. The first loans from the bank were effected in October 1854, and the last in April 1856, and the entire amount due to that establishment was liquidated in July 1856.

## COMPARATIVE YEARLY STATEMENT OF COLONIAL EXPENDITURE.

15. The decrease of £458*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.* in 1856 does not arise from any material alteration in the scale or extent of fixed establishments, but is principally owing to the Governor drawing his salary in England, and a reduction in police expenditure.

16. *Gaols.* The decrease of £345*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.* under this head is consequent upon the removal of native prisoners to Rottnest Island, and discontinuance of rural gaols as places of lengthened confinement.

17. *Transport.* The reduction of £27*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.* arises from the discontinuance of Government teams, and the employment of contract teams instead.

18. *Works and Buildings.* Decrease, £14*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.* *Roads and Bridges.* Decrease, £2,009*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.* The reductions under these heads were necessary in consequence of the embarrassed condition of the colonial finances in 1854-55.

19. *Harbour Master.* Increase of 109*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.*, the expense of building a buoy boat for the Harbour.

20. *Poorhouse and Immigration.* The decrease of £52*l.* 9*s.* 1*d.* is consequent upon the change of system adopted in the establishment, compelling emigrants by all legitimate means to go into service, rather than permit them to remain in idleness on the hands of the Government.

21. *Rottnest Penal Establishment,* 1,097*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.* The restoration of this establishment was imperatively necessary to the safe custody and suitable punishment of native convicts, as well as to obviate the inhuman means necessary for their safe custody at Perth. Vide decrease under head of "Gaols."

22. *Repayment of Loans to Western Australian Bank,* 4,082*l.* 8*s.* 1*d.* increase. The final payment on account of these loans took place in July 1856, and I apprehend that no further recourse need be had to future loans.

## TAXES AND DUTIES.

23. The taxes and duties were altered during 1856, according to the scale at pages 2 and 3\*, to enable the Government to pay off an outstanding debt (\* Of Blue Book.) which retarded all progress. There is no direct taxation.

## PUBLIC DEBT.

24. The public debt has been decreased from £2,939*l.* in 1855 to £688*l.* in 1856.

## LEGISLATION.

25. The titles of the various Ordinances passed during the year 1856 are sufficiently indicative of their object. They have been fully commented upon at the period of their transmission.

## IMPORTS.

26. The general imports of the year 1856 amount in value to the sum of £22,938*l.*, exceeding those of 1855 by the sum of £7,619*l.*, arising principally on the following items: on articles of domestic use, as—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Butter and cheese, an increase of	-	1,741	16	10		
Pork and hams, an increase of	-	963	1	1		
Oilman's stores, an increase of	-	2,026	0	9		
Soap and candles, an increase of	-	1,069	0	5		
Drapery and haberdashery, an increase of	-	2,344	12	3		
Earthenware and glass, an increase of	-	769	10	2		
Hardware, &c., an increase of	-	722	3	10		
Apparel, an increase of	-	1,195	11	7		
Boots and shoes, an increase of	-	1,111	16	11		
				11,943	13	10
On articles as—						
Tools and implements, an increase of	-	3,371	5	5		
Furniture, an increase of	-	1,994	2	3		
				4,765	7	8
Articles of luxury—						
Spirits, an increase of	-	3,307	2	6		
Tobacco, an increase of	-	955	19	8		
Wine, an increase of	-	927	2	6		
Beer, an increase of	-	1,097	3	8		
				6,887	8	4
				£23,396	9	10

These items indicate an excess of more than £3,000*l.*, but the general excess is reduced by the falling off in the quantity of sugar imported in 1856, amounting to an estimated value of probably 8,000*l.*, almost entirely attributable to the accidental removal of ships previously engaged in its transit from Singapore, now replaced by colonial vessels. A consideration of the items above enumerated will sufficiently indicate the social progress of the people.

27. It may be interesting to take a short review of the imports since the introduction of convicts in the year 1850, and the effect that measure produced. In that year the general imports were estimated at 62,311*l.*, being about a moiety only of those of 1856. The additional capital thrown into general circulation by the imperial expenditure gave such an impetus to agricultural and commercial pursuits, and enhanced the value of every description of property to such an extent, that the imports advanced in value till 1854, when they reached the money value of 128,000*l.* The imports of that year were admittedly, and have been proved to be, beyond the requirements of the people, and the imports of 1855 were consequently decreased by about £3,000*l.* Notwithstanding this practical experience by the importers, the imports of 1856 come short of those of 1854 by about 5,000*l.* only. I assume from these facts that the imports of 1856 are not in excess of the requirements, and that the trade of the colony is in a sound and healthy state. I further infer, from the foregoing figures, that the prosperity and progress of the colony is mainly, if not altogether, dependent upon the continuance of transportation, its capabilities, as at present known, being insufficient to bind enterprising men from seeking the superior attractions of other colonies, were the convict expenditure and cheap labour withdrawn. It thus becomes the more important that the colonists and Her Majesty's Government should approach all difficult convict questions in a spirit of moderation and compromise.

#### EXPORTS.

28. The exports of the colony, in like manner as the imports, have increased from about 21,000*l.* in the year 1850 to 44,000*l.* in 1856. There is a decrease in the exports of 1856, as compared with 1855, of about 2,000*l.*, arising from a temporary suspension of the timber trade with South Australia. This trade has been resumed with increased activity; and I look for largely increased exports in 1857, from the promising aspect of newly-discovered and rich copper mines, which are being worked with as much activity as local capital will admit of.

#### GENERAL REMARKS.

29. A perusal of the tables comprised in the Blue Book will convey an impression of the general and steady progress of the colony. No rapid results can be expected from so small and stationary a population, to which I can see little prospect of any material increase while the superior attractions to other colonies exist; and small communities have, I believe, in all places, been found unfavourable to even proportional development.

30. There is a singular absence of pauperism and distress, and a consideration of the imports will show that all classes have increased their comforts and expenditure. There are but few of the agriculturists who do not re-invest their gains in the same pursuit. Recent and wise concessions to the colonists by Her Majesty's Government, in the remission of "passage money" from convicts, will tend to cheapen labour, and enable the agriculturists to compete successfully with those of any other colony.

31. The lead and copper mines, especially the latter, are daily assuming greater importance, and I entertain sanguine hopes that they will ere long prove valuable resources.

32. The statistics of crime in this colony must ever be a subject of unusual interest. The general security for life and property equals that in any part of Her Majesty's dominions, and far exceeds that existing in communities of much higher pretensions. Highway robbery, or robberies with violence, are of the rarest occurrence. All classes of the community travel to and fro, late and early, unarmed and unattended. Whenever crime is committed it is promptly detected.

## 33. The criminal returns for 1855 showed —

Murders	-	-	6
Other felonies	-	-	24
Misdemeanors	-	-	26
Criminals executed	-	-	7

34. The present year shows a remarkable and most satisfactory decrease upon the foregoing. There were only twenty-nine criminals of all grades tried and convicted before the general quarter sessions in the year 1856. Their crimes were as follow:—

Murders	-	-	2
Other felonies	-	-	9
Larcenies	-	-	18

Thirteen cases of the total larcenies were thefts of clothes and food, and the remaining five for stealing whale oil, tools, and copper coin, all of small value. One murder was committed at York by a conditionally-pardoned man upon a ticket-of-leave holder, and the other at the Vasse by a ticket-of-leave holder upon a free man; both were aggravated cases. Three out of the four robberies above stated were committed upon men in public houses while in a state of drunkenness.

35. Of the total twenty-nine criminals, six were free men, twenty were conditionally-pardoned men, and three ticket-of-leave holders. Magisterial or summary convictions are not of course included in these numbers.

36. When the increased number of liberated criminals is considered, the foregoing details are the more satisfactory, and reflect great credit on the efficiency and improved organization of the police force, reduced as it has been in numbers and expense since 1855.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. E. KENNEDY.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.

&c. &c. &c.

(No. 123.)

Government House, Perth, November 13, 1857.

(Received January 13, 1858.)

SIR,

1. The growing importance of the Northern District of this colony having rendered it desirable that I should make myself acquainted with the prospects and resources of this large tract of country, I availed myself of the opportunity of a ship proceeding thither on the 3d of October, and embarked for Champion Bay.

2. Though you have on former occasions received descriptions of this district, my later impression of its resources and capabilities may not be uninteresting, in connexion with the anticipated increase of population both free and convict.

3. Champion Bay is the only anchorage for vessels of any size on this part of the coast, and is in my opinion much safer and easier of access than is generally supposed. For nine months of the year it may be safely frequented, and I think at any season by well-found ships. From this port all the produce of the district—wheat, butter, cheese, wool, and copper ore—is exported. A jetty is in process of erection to facilitate these operations. Numerous "Town Lots" have been purchased, and preparations for building commenced. A party of probation prisoners are huddled here, for the purpose of erecting the jetty and other necessary public works. The conduct of this party, beyond the temptation of public houses, and with but slender supervision, has been exemplary.

4. From Champion Bay I proceeded to Port Gregory, near which there are commodious buildings for a ticket-of-leave depôt. There are but a few acres of land in the neighbourhood or within 30 miles fit for agricultural purposes, and an almost total absence of fuel and fresh water. The water at the depôt is so brackish as to be unfit for use, and this, together with the impossibility of procuring vegetables, induced scurvy to a considerable extent among the convicts while the depôt was occupied.

5. The harbour at Port Gregory is formed by a coral reef, running nearly parallel to the shore, and over which the sea breaks in moderate gales. It is

narrow and difficult of access, and only fit for vessels of small tonnage. This is the port of shipment for the ore from the Geraldine Lead Mine, 36 miles inland. There are formidable engineering difficulties in making a good road to connect the mine and harbour, but by no means insuperable were the mines in the hands of persons of energy and capital. There has been a Pensioner's Guard, consisting of a corporal and three men, stationed here since the formation of the depôt. They were miserably hutted, and suffered great privations till the depôt was closed, since which period they have occupied the convict buildings; I propose to remove them to the neighbourhood of Champion Bay as there is no military duty for them now to perform at Port Gregory, and no available land on which they could be made self supporting without the aid of military pay.

6. From Port Gregory I proceeded to the Geraldine Lead Mine, a distance of 36 miles. The whole of the country between these two points, with the exception of a small patch of land nearly midway, is unproductive. The history of the Geraldine mine is probably known to you. The richness of the ore obtainable is in my opinion undoubted, and the quantity unlimited; under good and energetic management it would have paid well. It has languished and failed from want of sufficient capital to work it. I have no doubt that when practical men with capital succeed to its management it will prove a valuable resource and a most remunerative undertaking. An immediate outlay of 4,000*l.* to 5,000*l.* would be necessary before any steady return could be expected.

7. The next object of my visit was the Wanerenooka Copper Mine lately opened, between which and Champion Bay there is every facility for the formation of a good road. A considerable quantity of ore from this mine has been shipped to England, and realized highly remunerative prices. It is at present worked by a company on a small scale, but will eventually prove a most valuable resource and afford extensive employment.

8. The whole of this district abounds in mineral indications, to which many persons have turned their attention. There is much fine grazing land and good wheat land in the neighbourhood, together with a plentiful supply of water. With these natural advantages I look for the rapid settlement and progress of this part of the district. The Wanerenooka Mine is, in a direct line, about 40 miles distant from the Geraldine Mine.

9. There is a large extent of fine land held under squatting leases in this neighbourhood. One settler commenced in 1851 with 2,000 sheep, he has since sold or killed 4,000, and has now a stock of 11,000. Many others have in proportion done equally well. Wheat growing has proved highly remunerative; 9*s.* per hushel was obtained for 600 hushels by one settler while I was in the district.

10. Leaving the Wanerenooka and Bowes country I proceeded toward the Greenough River, visiting settlers farms by the way. Their thriving condition and the luxuriance of their crops was most satisfactory and gratifying, many having raised themselves from servitude to a state of independence with every domestic comfort about them. The very best land, whether for grazing or agricultural purposes, is to be found in this neighbourhood, and is being rapidly purchased or leased. I saw some very good flocks of sheep and herds of horses in this neighbourhood, and a herd of 500 of the finest grass fed cattle I have ever seen. Perth and Fremantle are supplied with beef principally from the Northern District, the animals being driven overland without much loss. Cattle in this and the Irwin district are equally prolific and remunerative as sheep. One herd of horned cattle was commenced in 1851 with 900, more than 900 have since been sold at an average of 16*l.* per head, and the herd has increased to 2,000.

11. From the Greenough I proceeded to the Irwin River. The available land in this district is limited to the banks of the river, but of very fine quality. The principal settler on this river is a most energetic and prosperous gentleman, extending his operations daily, and conferring substantial benefits on all around him. The mouth of this river is accessible for coasting craft. I look to this district as most promising, and capable of supplying a large quantity of corn and cattle.

12. From the Irwin River to Gingin the country is generally barren and requires no particular description; it is unfit for settlement, except in small



patches. There are a few settlers on the Moore River, but the land worth occupation is very limited.

13. From Gingin to Perth, 54 miles, the country is well known; there is much fine land and many most thriving settlements in the neighbourhood of Gingin.

14. Though I do not profess much practical knowledge on the subject, I have every reason to believe that coal will be found in the neighbourhood of Port Gregory, a matter of great importance in a district abounding in minerals.

15. The native population in the Northern District (as in others) is rapidly on the decrease. They are tractable and inoffensive, but of the lowest order of savages. The females old, and young, go abroad without covering of any kind, absolutely nude.

16. I was on the whole most agreeably surprised by the resources of the Northern District, and the prosperity and contentment of the settlers were most gratifying.

17. I rode upwards of six hundred miles during my tour, and slept many nights in the "Bush;" the only tent for myself and party consisted of two barrack sheets stitched together and strained over a pole, a sufficient indication of the mildness and salubrity of the climate.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. E. KENNEDY.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.

&c.

&c.

&c.

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## NEW ZEALAND.

[The Annual Reports for the Years 1855 and 1856 have not been received from New Zealand.]

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$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{x^2} \right) \quad \text{for } x > 0$$

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PART V.  
EASTERN COLONIES.

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CEYLON.

No. 35.

## CEYLON.

No. 35.

COPY of DESPATCH from GOVERNOR Sir H. G. WARD to the Right  
HON. H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.(No. 135.)  
SIR,Queen's House, Colombo, July 25, 1857.  
(Received September 5, 1857.)

THE great length at which I brought before you the state and prospects of this colony in the Despatch accompanying the Blue Book Returns for the year 1855, and the various points upon which I have subsequently been favoured with your decision, will enable me to deal more briefly upon the present occasion with many subjects which it was then necessary to discuss in much detail, and to consider the report of 1856 rather as the working out of the principles originally laid down, than as involving new or doubtful questions upon which I have still to solicit your instructions. I propose, therefore, to make this Despatch simply an extension of the former one, taking up the subjects in the same order, and carrying them on to the 1st January 1857, stating the results that have been arrived at, the measures still in progress, and the farther results that may be anticipated.

*Finance.*

2. I have great satisfaction in acquainting you not only that there has been no falling off in the prosperous condition of the colonial finances, but that the improvement has been progressive. The fears expressed that the revenue of 1856 would not be quite equal to that of 1855 have not been realized; and it is in the customs, where the largest decrease was anticipated, that one of the largest items of increase will be found.

Revenue of 1855,  
1856 :  
Increase.

3. By the report of the Acting Auditor General, it appears that the revenue of 1856 was 504,174*l.* 18*s.* 4½*d.*; the revenue of 1855, 476,273*l.* 8*s.* 11½*d.*; showing a net increase of 27,901*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.*

4. The principal heads of increase are :—

\* In lieu of an  
anticipated reduction  
of 12,000*l.*

	£	s.	d.
Customs - - - - -	7,231*	2	8½
Land Sales - - - - -	12,303	0	9
Licences - - - - -	6,611	4	4
Stamps - - - - -	3,151	8	2
Sale of Government property (Salt, &c.) - - -	3,876	15	2

\* Vide Blue Book  
pages 18 to 38.  
Expenditure of  
1855, 1856 :  
Increase.

I must refer for minor details to the auditor's report,\* which is, as usual, clear and able.

5. The expenditure of 1856, ordinary and supplementary, exceeds that of 1855 by 51,527*l.* 12*s.* 5½*d.*, the one having amounted to 457,137*l.* 5*s.* 4½*d.*, the other to 405,609*l.* 12*s.* 11½*d.* Of this increase 6,853*l.* comes under the head of "Establishments," 1,849*l.* of transport, and 23,636*l.* of roads, bridges, buildings, and other public works. There is also a considerable increase in the colonial commissariat (16,796*l.*), which arises from the purchase of a much larger amount of stores, timber, implements, &c., in the colony and in England, in consequence of the extension of the public works.

\* 6,853*l.*\* Increase, 4,156*l.*\* Increase, 1,341*l.*\* Increase, 923*l.*\* Increase,  
1,849*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*Revenue and ex-  
penditure of 1856.  
Assets and li-  
abilities on 31st  
December 1856.

6. The increase in establishments\* is accounted for mainly by the re-organization of the Supreme Court, with the full complement of judges,\* an object of the utmost importance to the proper administration of justice; the difference between the salaries of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor during four months of the year, and a very small instalment of the changes that must take place in the departments both of the Surveyor General,\* and of the Commissioner of Public Works,\* if those officers are to be placed in a position to meet the growing demands of the colony, and to place the execution of the works for which they are responsible under proper control. The increase in the charge for "Transport"\* simply shows that there has been a great increase of activity in the inspection of the different districts of the island on the part of all the Government officers, beginning with myself.

7. The increased revenue exceeded the increased expenditure by 47,037*l.* 12*s.* 11½*d.*

8. The assets of the colony in the table of assets and liabilities show a total of 327,670*l.* 11*s.* 1¾*d.*; the liabilities are 68,024*l.* 5*s.* 6½*d.*; leaving an apparent

CEYLON.

(Vide Par. 6 of last Blue Book report.)

balance in favour of the Ceylon Government of 259,646*l.* 5*s.* 7½*d.*, but from this must be deducted, as I explained last year, nine tenths of the sum that appears in the assets under the head of "Outstanding Revenue Debts." In 1855 the amount of these was 104,746*l.* 14*s.* 6½*d.*, of which 11,225*l.* 7*s.* 2½*d.* were alone considered to be recoverable. This year the amount is stated at 103,062*l.* 17*s.* 11½*d.*, some few of the claims having been liquidated or struck off as irrecoverable, with the assent of Her Majesty's Government; of this, 65,943*l.* 5*s.* 1½*d.* are stated to be "irrecoverable," 28,140*l.* 10*s.* 10½*d.* are awaiting the decision of the Courts, while there appears to be a reasonable chance of recovering 8,979*l.* 1*s.* 11½*d.*, which I consequently add to the bona fide assets. Deducting, therefore, from the gross balance of 259,646*l.* 5*s.* 7½*d.* 94,083*l.* 16*s.* for bad debts, and 2,380*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.* for surcharges, which may be settled by vouchers, and not in money, there remained on the 31st December 1856 a net available balance of 163,182*l.* 6*s.* 5*d.* in favour of the Ceylon Government, and applicable to the public requirements of 1857, in addition to the ordinary revenue of the year.

9. Of the Treasury notes, the amount of which originally was 87,500*l.*, 84,751*l.* 17*s.* were cancelled at various times between 1819 and 1856; there now remain only notes to the value of 946*l.* in the Treasury or the cutcherries, which will be cancelled immediately, and 1,802*l.* 3*s.* in the hands of the public, many of which will probably never be presented. Their place in the circulation of the island has been supplied by the notes of the Oriental Bank, not only without inconvenience, but with some advantage to the public, since being payable at Kandy, with a charge of half per cent. for commission, as well as at Colombo, these notes are preferred in the Central Province to the Government notes, which could only be cashed on presentation at the Treasury. The Mercantile Bank still remains in the same position, not having complied with the conditions upon which the notes of the Oriental Bank are received in the cutcherries and other Government establishments.

10. A loan of 50,000*l.* has been made to the Oriental Bank upon the deposit of Indian Government paper to the same amount, which is held on account of the Ceylon Government by the Government of Madras. The bank receives the interest upon its own securities, and pays 2½ per cent. upon the 50,000*l.*, 10,000*l.* of which may be called for by the Government without notice, if required, and the whole amount upon a notice of six months; to this extent, therefore, the unproductive balance\* in the Treasury vault is reduced,† and there will be a further demand upon it in the present year to meet the surplus fund ordinance, amounting to 38,000*l.*

Treasury notes.

Balance in Treasury vault.

\* Vide Par. 8 of previous report.  
† By a return just received I find that the amount of money in the Treasury vault on the 30th June 1856 was 130,810*l.*, and on the 30th June 1857, after advancing the 50,000*l.* to the Oriental Bank, 123,560*l.*; difference, 7,250*l.*

## Public Works.

11. The amount expended by the department of Public Works during the year was:—

	£	s.	d.
Establishment - - -	9,939	8	1
Government Works - - -	88,634	17	7½
Ordinance Labour - - -	17,334	10	0½
<b>Total - - -</b>	<b>115,908</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>9</b>

For the detail of this expenditure, which was spread over the whole island, I must refer to the report of the Commissioner of Public Works. The principal items are:—

	£	s.	d.
Kandy Road, Upkeep - - -	13,649	5	6½
Galle Road - - -	2,772	14	4½
Road from Peradenia to Nuwera Ellia - - -	5,776	8	4
Gampolla Bridge - - -	2,229	19	1
Peradenia Bridge - - -	1,755	4	5½
Natande Canal - - -	3,081	17	4½
Grain Shed (Customs, Colombo) - - -	1,425	18	6½
Clock Tower, Colombo - - -	740	10	11½
Queen's House, Colombo - - -	1,789	0	6½
Cemetery, Trincomalee - - -	478	5	5½
New Cutcherry - - -	577	19	11½

CAYLON.

12. I can express my entire satisfaction with the manner in which both the road repairs and the buildings have been executed, under the able superintendence of Major Skinner, and Mr. Churchill, whose appointment as assistant to the civil engineer and Commissioner of Public Works you were pleased to sanction on my recommendation. It is impossible to speak too highly of this gentleman's professional abilities and unremitting industry. The Kandy road, which is under the special superintendence of Mr. Evatt, is in a perfectly satisfactory state, but requires, and will always require, large annual repairs, from the immense amount of traffic upon it, nearly the whole of the coffee crop reaching the coast by this route from the interior. The road from Peradenia to Nuwera Ellia was under partial repair when I reached the island, but the last 14 miles of it were impassable for any conveyance on wheels, to the great loss and injury of the planters in the Badulla district, who paid at one time 14s. per cwt. for the conveyance of their coffee to Colombo\*; there is now not the slightest difficulty on any part of the road,† which is one of the most striking works in the colony. The suspension bridge at Gampolla is advancing as rapidly as the difficulties attending the supply of stone will admit of; it will replace a most dangerous ferry over the Mahawilla Ganga, and form an easy outlet for the coffee of the Puailawa, Kotmalie, and Dimbola districts; I hope to see this work completed and the bridge opened for traffic on the Queen's birthday, 1858. The Peradenia Bridge is an indispensable link in the communication with Kandy, and has been completely repaired under the superintendence of Captain Graham. The cost has been heavy in consequence of the large and valuable timber required, but I have great confidence in the stability of the work; and, from the width of the span (206 feet), an iron lattice bridge of sufficient strength would have been much more expensive.

\* Vide Minute on  
Badulla roads,  
Encl. 3, page 285.  
† 46 miles from  
Kandy.

Natande Canal.  
\* Vide Minute,  
Encl. 2, page 283.

13. The Natande Canal formed the subject of one of my earliest communications to the legislature.\* It struck me as much to be regretted that an inland navigation of 86 miles should be interrupted, and the advantages of a water communication between the Government salt depôts at Putlam and the Colombo market lost, from sheer inability to remove an obstruction, the result of ill-judged economy in former years. A personal inspection of the canal satisfied me that the work presented no engineering difficulties; that where there had been a free current of water between the Maha Oya and the northern lakes, there would be a free current again, so soon as the mass of mud which had been allowed to fill up the bed of the canal was removed; and that neither locks nor retaining walls were required to keep the navigation open. It was simply a question of labour and money. The Council having concurred in these views, the work was placed in charge of a very meritorious officer, Mr. Campbell, who commenced operations in September 1855, with a large gang of coolies. I visited the works several times during their progress, and have much satisfaction in stating that they were completed within the estimate (3000*l.*), and that on the 23rd September 1856 the canal was opened from Colombo to Putlam. By this change every boat frequenting it is saved a sum of 32*s.* on its passage, that being the charge made for unloading the cargo at Natande, and conveying it in bullock handies to the point of re-shipment. It is my intention to establish by ordinance a toll upon boats using the canal, which with proper care will be sufficient to provide for the annual repairs. Accommodation bridges have been built at those points where the cattle of the villages on the west side were in the habit of fording it, in order to reach the paddy fields beyond; and I shall propose to the Council the appointment of an officer whose duty it will be to devote his whole time to the water communication between Putlam and Colombo, upon which I believe the progress of agriculture, the salt revenue, and the fisheries of Negombo mainly to depend.

14. The grain shed at Colombo forms part of a series of works that have been undertaken since my arrival here, in order to make the Custom House buildings at all commensurate with the growing trade of the port. Some of these were included in the Supplementary Supply Bill of 1855; others will extend over the whole of the present year. They comprise, besides the grain shed, a new jetty, with cranes, &c., for shipping goods\*; an export shed†; an upper story to what is termed the Queen's warehouse‡; a new warehouse§ 188 feet long, parallel with the wall of the fort, but necessarily limited in height

\* 1,121*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*  
† 390*l.*  
‡ 842*l.* 15*s.* 11*d.*  
§ 642*l.*

by the engineer department; the filling up of a piece of old canal which interfered with the approach to the jetty; and a second grain or import shed,\* which will not be completed till next year. With these additions, I consider the Custom House of Colombo to be nearly as complete and commodious an establishment as it is possible to form in so limited a space. How the business was conducted previously I do not know.

15. The clock tower has given to the inhabitants of Colombo an advantage which they ought to have enjoyed 42 years ago, that being the time during which a clock, that cost originally 1,200*l.*, was allowed to remain in the commissariat stores; to avoid the expense of putting it up. It is highly creditable to those who had charge of it, that the works have not been injured during this long period, though they have cost 280*l.* for cleaning and oil. The clock tower, which is 96 feet high, was completed by Mr. Churchill, and the clock is now both a convenience and an ornament to the town. The repairs of the Queen's house were a matter of absolute necessity, since the roof admitted the rain in every part. They have been completed in a most substantial and satisfactory manner, and, with the exception of a small wooden verandah attached to the drawing-room, which is not safe, I do not think that the building will require any further outlay for many years, beyond the 100*l.* voted for painting and incidental repairs. The votes for the entcherry and cemetery at Trincomalee are fully explained in my Minute on the Eastern Province.\*

\* 2,436*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.*

\* Vide Minute, Encl. 6, page 309.

#### *Surveying Department.*

16. The short but interesting report of the Surveyor General shows the progress of his department in the year 1856, and the results accomplished with very inadequate means. The surveys in the central and western provinces comprehended 13,132 acres of land advertised, of which 9,888 acres were sold within the year, the price realized being 18,172*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.*; this, with 2,134*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.* in fees, made the total receipts of the department 20,307*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.*, while the expenditure was 8,300*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.* The expenditure includes a variety of charges unconnected with the actual surveys of crown land, such as encroachment cases, of which 252 were investigated, and 179 decided; the purchase of instruments\* (312*l.*); the mapping and surveying of 40 miles of main road; the completion of the Matelle survey, to the peculiar circumstances of which I adverted in paragraph 20 of my previous report; and the training of eighteen sub-assistants, four of whom I regret to say have already quitted the department in consequence of the severity of the work. Notwithstanding these drawbacks, the absence of two assistant surveyors, and the inefficiency of two others from failing health, the quantity of land advertised in 1856 exceeds that of any previous year since 1845. The financial results leave a gain of 12,006*l.* to the revenue, deducting the total expenditure from the total receipts for land and fees; and the costs of the survey have been reduced by 4*s.* 4½*d.* per acre, which upon 13,132 acres amounts to 2,858*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.*

Encl. 1, page 283.

\* Since lost in the "Sumatra."

17. I regard this simply as an indication of the good that might be done if the department had a really efficient staff under its present highly efficient head; but from this we are just as far removed as ever. The present staff of assistant surveyors, with two exceptions, Mr. Noad and Mr. Braybrooke, are men no longer fit for the out-of-door duties of their situation, the trying nature of which it is difficult to overrate. Out of 19 officers who have entered the surveying department during the last 16 years, only one has served ten years. A life of hardships, exposure to climate, the difficulty and cost of obtaining the necessaries of life when camping in the jungle for months together, the inadequacy of the pay, and the hard conditions attached to the obtaining a pension, for which a service of 15 years is required, have discouraged the boldest, and destroyed the weak. No professional man in England will enter a service so hazardous and so ill requited. The attempt to raise up a nursery of surveyors taken from the burgher class within the colony itself has failed, not from want of ability in those who came forward, but from want of stamina for the work. And these experiments in educating young men, who first acquire their experience at the expense of the colony, and then take it to a better market, are costly and disappointing to all concerned. If the department be really of vital importance to the progress of Ceylon, as has been admitted in almost the whole of the official correspondence by the Secretary of

CEYLON.

12. I can express my entire satisfaction with the manner in which both the road repairs and the buildings have been executed, under the able superintendence of Major Skinner, and Mr. Churchill, whose appointment as assistant to the civil engineer and Commissioner of Public Works you were pleased to sanction on my recommendation. It is impossible to speak too highly of this gentleman's professional abilities and unremitting industry. The Kandy road, which is under the special superintendence of Mr. Evatt, is in a perfectly satisfactory state, but requires, and will always require, large annual repairs, from the immense amount of traffic upon it, nearly the whole of the coffee crop reaching the coast by this route from the interior. The road from Peradenia to Nuwera Ellia was under partial repair when I reached the island, but the last 14 miles of it were impassable for any conveyance on wheels, to the great loss and injury of the planters in the Badulla district, who paid at one time 14s. per cwt. for the conveyance of their coffee to Colombo\*; there is now not the slightest difficulty on any part of the road,† which is one of the most striking works in the colony. The suspension bridge at Gampolla is advancing as rapidly as the difficulties attending the supply of stone will admit of; it will replace a most dangerous ferry over the Mahawilla Ganga, and form an easy outlet for the coffee of the Pusilawa, Kotmale, and Dimbola districts; I hope to see this work completed and the bridge opened for traffic on the Queen's birthday, 1858. The Peradenia Bridge is an indispensable link in the communication with Kandy, and has been completely repaired under the superintendence of Captain Graham. The cost has been heavy in consequence of the large and valuable timber required, but I have great confidence in the stability of the work; and, from the width of the span (206 feet), an iron lattice bridge of sufficient strength would have been much more expensive.

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\* Vide Minute, Encl. 6, page 309.

#### *Surveying Department.*

16. The short but interesting report of the Surveyor General shows the progress of his department in the year 1856, and the results accomplished with very inadequate means. The surveys in the central and western provinces comprehended 13,132 acres of land advertised, of which 9,888 acres were sold within the year, the price realized being 18,172*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.*; this, with 2,134*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.* in fees, made the total receipts of the department 20,307*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.*, while the expenditure was 8,300*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.* The expenditure includes a variety of charges unconnected with the actual surveys of crown land, such as encroachment cases, of which 252 were investigated, and 179 decided; the purchase of instruments\* (312*l.*); the mapping and surveying of 40 miles of main road; the completion of the Matelle survey, to the peculiar circumstances of which I adverted in paragraph 20 of my previous report; and the training of eighteen sub-assistants, four of whom I regret to say have already quitted the department in consequence of the severity of the work. Notwithstanding these drawbacks, the absence of two assistant surveyors, and the inefficiency of two others from failing health, the quantity of land advertised in 1856 exceeds that of any previous year since 1845. The financial results leave a gain of 12,006*l.* to the revenue, deducting the total expenditure from the total receipts for land and fees; and the costs of the survey have been reduced by 4*s.* 4½*d.* per acre, which upon 13,132 acres amounts to 2,858*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.*

Encl. 1, page 283.

\* Since lost in the "Sumatra."

17. I regard this simply as an indication of the good that might be done if the department had a really efficient staff under its present highly efficient head; but from this we are just as far removed as ever. The present staff of assistant surveyors, with two exceptions, Mr. Noad and Mr. Braybrooke, are men no longer fit for the out-of-door duties of their situation, the trying nature of which it is difficult to overrate. Out of 19 officers who have entered the surveying department during the last 16 years, only one has served ten years. A life of hardships, exposure to climate, the difficulty and cost of obtaining the necessaries of life when camping in the jungle for months together, the inadequacy of the pay, and the hard conditions attached to the obtaining a pension, for which a service of 15 years is required, have discouraged the boldest, and destroyed the weak. No professional man in England will enter a service so hazardous and so ill required. The attempt to raise up a nursery of surveyors taken from the burgher class within the colony itself has failed, not from want of ability in those who came forward, but from want of stamina for the work. And these experiments in educating young men, who first acquire their experience at the expense of the colony, and then take it to a better market, are costly and disappointing to all concerned. If the department be really of vital importance to the progress of Ceylon, as has been admitted in almost the whole of the official correspondence by the Secretary of

## CEYLON.

State, but more particularly in Lord Grey's Despatch to Lord Torrington of 18th June 1847, it should be efficiently constituted, and then kept well up to its work. Competent men should be induced to enter it by the offer of fair remuneration, and early retirement if required by failing health. There should be one assistant surveyor to each province at least, with an adequate staff, available for any surveys that may be required, whether connected with the Government rents or with the sale of Government lands. The "Minutes" which it is my intention to append to this Despatch, containing the results of my various tours of inspection, will show to what account this system might be turned, and how essential it is as a check upon wholesale frauds in the commutation of paddy lands\*; and if with the present most inadequate establishment, the Surveyor General can point to a gain of 12,000*l.* as the results of the year, there cannot be a doubt that this amount might be tripled or quadrupled if the means were commensurate with the end proposed, and if the work that must be done in the course of the next ten years were thus to be undertaken upon a comprehensive and consequently an economical plan. The subject will occupy the attention of the Legislative Council when it comes to the final vote upon the fixed establishments; and I feel confident, from the aid which you have been kind enough to give to the colony in the partial attempts made to increase the surveying establishment, that any well-digested scheme of this nature will receive the consideration which it deserves.

*Legislation.*

18. The session of 1856 presented, both in the number and importance of the legislative measures passed, all of which have had the good fortune to receive Her Majesty's sanction, a striking contrast to that of 1855. The state of the finances, the knowledge of the island which I had acquired, and the cordial support given to every useful proposal by the Legislative Council, enabled the Government to bring forward some measures which, like the penny postage, had long been kept back, on prudential grounds, and to moot others respecting which opinion had been divided, with a fair prospect of success. The programme of the session will be found in my opening speech, a copy of which I have the honour to annex to this report, as every proposal contained in it was ultimately carried out, with the exception of the banking ordinance, which there were reasons for suspending, and the ordinance for facilitating the commutation of the Government tithe on paddy lands, to which valid objections were raised. These, however, I hope to be able to remove.

19. The railway ordinance, as the most important measure of the session, was naturally that respecting which the greatest differences of opinion prevailed. It involved a 2½ per cent. export duty, bearing principally upon the staple produce of the island,—coffee, and affecting disadvantageously many existing engagements, however great its prospective good. There was under these circumstances considerable opposition to the confirmation of the provisional agreement concluded by yourself on behalf of the colony with the Ceylon Railway Company; and this opposition was increased by the possibility of an indefinite liability being incurred, it being impossible to fix a limit of expenditure upon a line which had not been actually surveyed. The acceptance of the agreement was therefore made conditional upon the expenditure not exceeding 1,200,000*l.*; but, thanks to your ready compliance with the address of the Council upon this point, and to the satisfactory results of Captain Moorsom's survey, to which I cannot allude farther, as it belongs properly to the present year, all differences of opinion respecting the railway have ceased in the colony, and there is an universal desire to see the work commenced.

20. The Act for establishing an uniform system of penny postage; the Irrigation Act, which has been so highly and generally appreciated by the native population; the ordinance for the settlement of claims connected with temple lands; the four ordinances for improving the administration of justice; the liberal estimates for public works; and the Surplus Fund Bill, providing for the construction of an electric telegraph from Galle to Manaar\*, the purchase of a steamer to go round the island monthly\*, a grant for irrigation works†, the extension of the department of the Surveyor General\*, and the continuation of the road between Jaffna and the Elephant Pass in the northern province\*, and the improvement of the Trincomalee Road between Matelle and Dambool\*,—

Encl. 2, page 285.

Encl. 3, page 287.

Encl. 4, page 292.

Encl. 5, page 304.

Encl. 6, page 311.

Encl. 7, page 329.

\* Vide Second Minute on Eastern Province, Encl. 7, page 329.

Encl. 8, page 336.

Railway ordinance.

Other Acts of the session.

\* 17,000*l.*\* 10,000*l.* † 4,000*l.*\* 3,000*l.*\* 1,500*l.*\* 1,500*l.*

are all matters to which the Government may look back with unmixed satisfaction, and which, taken collectively, constitute a remarkable epoch in the legislation of Ceylon. All these measures have received Her Majesty's assent. The penny postage came into operation on the 1st of April of the present year. The electric telegraph is in process of construction. The steamer has been ordered in England. And I trust that the island will soon receive a return for so liberal an application of its means, by the happy results which this expenditure is calculated to produce.

#### Public Health

21. The public health has been throughout the past year in a most satisfactory state; there has been no epidemic. A few isolated cases of cholera have occurred, but the disease has never spread, in spite of a daily communication with India via Manaar, and the absence of all precautions as regards quarantine.

#### Imports and Exports.

22. The imports of the three last years were:—

	£
1854 - - -	1,225,350
1855 - - -	1,457,770
1856 - - -	1,672,583

The exports were:—

1854 - - -	1,236,938
1855 - - -	1,350,410
1856 - - -	1,509,087

There is, therefore, an increase in the imports of 214,813*l.* as compared with 1855, and of 447,233*l.* as compared with 1854; and an increase in the exports of 158,677*l.* as compared with 1855, and of 272,149*l.* as compared with 1854. The export of cinnamon was

730,600 lbs. in 1855, and  
909,033 lbs. in 1856,

showing an increase of 178,433 lbs. But coffee fell from 506,540 cwts. in 1855 to 440,819 in 1856, showing a decrease of 65,721 cwts., notwithstanding the larger breadth of land under crop. The revenue derived from imports and exports was:—

	£	s.	d.
1855 - - -	143,040	19	0
1856 - - -	149,397	17	9

out of a total revenue of 504,174*l.*

#### Education.

23. The report of the Central School Commission contains all the information that it is in my power to give upon this subject. The system continues unaltered, but I see indications of a growing desire for change.

#### Pearl Fishery.

24. No fishery was expected or took place during the year 1856, but the inspection of the banks in October confirmed the reports previously received as to the prospect of an abundant supply of oysters both in 1857 and 1859.\* The pearl fishery may therefore be again regarded as a valuable addition to the financial resources of the colony; and I am not without hopes that a closer investigation of the habits of the pearl oyster, and of the laws that apparently regulate its production, may afford the means of lessening the fluctuations that have occurred during the last twenty years.

25. The reports of the civil engineer and commissioner of roads and deputy commissary general on the Government houses and furniture at Colombo and Kandy are subjoined.

26. I trust, Sir, that you will consider the facts embodied in this report as affording conclusive proofs that the colony is in a healthy and satisfactory state; that the means at the disposal of the Government have been applied to legitimate ends; and that the larger expenditure on roads, bridges, and public

\* *Note*.—As regards the present year, this expectation has been fully realized, the number of oysters fished having been 32,453,053, and the amount realized, at very low rates, 20,163*l.*

Government houses and furniture.  
Encl. 9, page 342.  
Encl. 10, page 342.

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works has added to the resources of the colony, instead of exhausting them, by encouraging industry and developing trade. The large estimates sanctioned for the year 1857 have already proved insufficient to meet the general demand for improvements of various kinds, and I have been forced to sanction advances to be charged against the supplementary vote, or to disappoint expectations which the state of the finances warranted, after the results of the Arripo fishery were ascertained. In general, I may assure you that the population is thriving, employment abundant, business increasing; and that I see nothing within the island itself to make me doubt the soundness of the policy which I have been enabled by your confidence, and the co-operation of the Executive and Legislative Councils, to pursue.

\* Vide House of Commons Paper No. 45, Sess. 2. of 1857.

27. I should close here my remarks upon the progress and prospects of Ceylon, if a paper\* had not been laid before Parliament containing certain statements in reply to my Despatch of last year, which it is impossible for me to leave unnoticed without an apparent acquiescence in their justice. I allude to the letter addressed by Viscount Torrington to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, on the 17th January 1857.

28. In the first place this letter is founded upon an entire misapprehension of the facts. I had not the slightest intention of instituting any comparison between the merits or demerits of my own administration and that of my predecessors. I had been here too short a time in 1856 to lay claim to any other merit than that of having endeavoured to qualify myself for the task which I had before me, by making myself personally acquainted with the island committed to my care. The "Minutes" appended to this Despatch show the state in which I found it, and the urgent necessity of a much larger expenditure upon public works than the state of the revenue had warranted under my immediate predecessor, Sir George Anderson, or under Lord Torrington himself, as I believed and as his Lordship proves, for he states distinctly, that on assuming the government of Ceylon, in May 1847, "he found " its treasury nearly empty, its current expenditure largely in excess of its " annual income, its commerce declining, the cultivation of its staple products, " coffee and cinnamon, suddenly arrested, and its general condition rapidly " leading to bankruptcy." Letter, p. 2. He adds in a subsequent paragraph: " That the expenditure for 1846 had exceeded the income by 81,801*l.*, and " that the balance in the hands of the Government on the 1st January 1847 " was reduced to the sum of 54,592*l.*, against which were to be set the out- " standing liabilities of the Government, including 80,000*l.* of notes in circula- " tion on the faith of its security." Letter, p. 4.

29. I believe this description to be perfectly accurate, and I think Lord Torrington entitled to the highest credit for the firmness with which he reduced establishments, and suppressed every unnecessary outlay, until he brought his expenditure into accordance with his receipts; and it was to this, and to the demands entailed upon him by the rebellion of 1848, when 50,000*l.* were borrowed of the Oriental Bank, the last instalment of which was not repaid until after Lord Torrington left the island in 1850, that I alluded when I said "that it was his fate, as it was that of Sir G. Anderson, to enter " upon the government of this colony at a time when progress was impossible " (always adverting to public works), and when the most rigid economy was " required to balance the expenditure with the receipts." I illustrated this in the case of Sir G. Anderson, by showing that so late as 1852, when the outlay of the year exceeded the income by 1,065*l.*, he was warned of the necessity of greater circumspection by the Secretary of State; and I added, that "under these circumstances many things must obviously have been " omitted that it was most desirable to do; improvement was out of the " question; repairs, where it was possible, were postponed in the hope of better " times; salaries were reduced\*; revenue and judicial offices combined,† which " a short experience has compelled the Government again to separate. And it " is to the firmness with which this painful duty was fulfilled during a period " of seven years (from 1848 to 1855) by my two predecessors, aided by " Mr. MacCarthy, who, both as Colonial Secretary and as Lieutenant- " Governor, most ably seconded their efforts, that I am indebted for the very " different state of things which I have had the good fortune to find here."

30. Did I claim any, the slightest, credit for this change? On the contrary, I said distinctly, "No merit is due to me" for this improvement; "I am pro-

\* Vide Blue Book on Fixed Establishments, 1849.

† At Badulla and Batticaloa.

\* Blue Book, Despatch of 1856, part. 28, 29.

"fitting by the labours of others, and by a prosperity that I have found, not made." My sole duty is so to avail myself of the altered circumstances of the colony as to advance its farther development, by submitting to you plans founded upon an accurate knowledge of the localities to which they apply, not too large for present resources, yet large enough to meet the general demand for improved means of communication, and for an expanding field on which to employ native industry.\*

\* Blue Book,  
Despatch, par. 29.

31. I really am at a loss, on recurring to this passage after the lapse of a year, and with Lord Torrington's letter before me, to understand by what unhappy ingenuity it can have been distorted into a charge of "utter helplessness" against his administration, or that I can be imagined to have meant to insinuate in a Despatch, every line of which was communicated to Mr. MacCarthy, who filled the same post under Lord Torrington that he fills under me, that his Lordship was "so paralysed by apprehension as to be incapable of action," and that in this timid and do-nothing policy "he was ably seconded by Mr. MacCarthy himself."

32. I was not the judge of Lord Torrington's administration. I was not writing a history of Ceylon. I simply wished—and those who have known me longest in public life will give me most credit for sincerity in the declaration—to reconcile an alteration of policy, which I thought that the circumstances of the colony warranted and required, with that which my predecessors had been compelled to pursue, in the manner least likely to be offensive to their feelings or their friends.

33. I have now disposed of the first of Lord Torrington's charges. I meant no reflection upon him, and I believe that none can be deduced from my last year's Despatch, if their common meaning be given to common words. His lordship must choose, however, between the credit due for a wise economy and for a lavish expenditure on public works; he cannot unite the two, though I willingly admit that he did all that it was possible to do under the circumstances that he has himself described.

34. But there is a graver accusation still to meet. "Inexperience and want of proper information,"—for Lord Torrington has the goodness to acquit me of disingenuousness in the matter,—have prevented me from doing justice to a policy to which I owe the prosperity of which I am reaping the fruits,—a prosperity which I am unable to account for," but which I refuse to ascribe to its real author, and to the legislation introduced at his suggestion between 1847 and 1850. Lord Torrington repeats this accusation in every possible shape. He says (page 2), "I entertained a natural confidence that the present Governor, with opportunities of personal observation and experience, would have been enabled to trace my policy in its effects, and to render by his testimony to its soundness and effects that justice which has been so long withheld from me."

Again, "Sir H. Ward ascribes to his "recent arrival" in the island a want of information which "farther experience" will supply, "and I content myself, therefore, with the expression of my regret that those officers of his Government who were formerly connected with mine should have failed to direct his attention to the proceedings of the years between 1847 and 1849, when the policy which is now producing its results in the prosperity by which the Governor is surrounded was introduced at my instance." Page 2.

Again, "One of my earliest measures was framed with a view to the liberation and encouragement of commerce, by a revision of the tariff and an amendment of the customs law." Page 5.

Again, "An ordinance was passed within a very few months from the date of my arrival by which all export duties were abolished, with the exception of that upon cinnamon (which was, however, reduced from 1s. to 4d. per lb.); the tariff on enumerated articles was revised; and the duty on imports, including British manufactures, equalised at 5 per cent. ad valorem." Page 5.

Again, "Permit me to call your attention to the road ordinance, which Sir H. Ward so highly estimates, but the origin of which he has evidently failed to be informed of, or he would have seen by a reference to the proceedings of the Executive Council of 1848 that a Minute of my own originated that measure."

Again, "I incurred, for the sake of my successors, the annual expense of a steamer to watch the pearl banks, which very possibly might have yielded a

CEYLON.

"still larger sum to Sir H. Ward, but for the error committed after my departure by the sale of that steamer." Page 7.

35. If all these useful and desirable measures had really originated with Lord Torrington, I should indeed be most ungrateful had I "ignored them," as he states me to have done, or had I not formally recorded my obligations to the author of so salutary a change; but, without the slightest disrespect to his Lordship, I must demur to this claim. I might just as well call myself the author of these measures as Lord Torrington, because during 15 years I supported in Parliament, as a very humble member of the free trade party, principles that first assumed a legislative form in the tariff of Sir Robert Peel in 1842; but which, when successfully tested at home, it became the object of all thinking men to extend to the colonies. The precise mode in which they were to be made applicable to Ceylon was the subject of consideration with Lord Stanley and Mr. Gladstone in 1845 and 1846, as it became subsequently with Lord Grey, who referred it to a committee composed of Sir B. Hawes (then Under Secretary for the Colonies), Mr. Lefèvre (Secretary of the Board of Trade), Mr. Tufnell (Secretary of the Treasury), and Mr. Bird (of the East India Company's Service), whose joint report, dated April 13, 1847, was communicated to Lord Torrington on the 18th June, by Earl Grey, with instructions "to consider it as expressing, in general, the views which Her Majesty's Government entertain as to the course that ought to be taken for improving the revenue of Ceylon, and for the application of it towards many works of the highest public utility."

36. This was Lord Torrington's mission, and had he claimed credit for executing it with firmness and ability under circumstances of considerable difficulty, I should have been the first to offer to him my meed of praise. But the principles to be introduced, the branches of the revenue to which they were to be applied; the abolition of the duty on exports, including coffee; the reduction and ultimate extinction of the cinnamon duty, as the only hope of reinvigorating a failing trade; the assimilation of duties on British and foreign goods imported, were all recommendations emanating from the committee, largely discussed in Sir E. Tennent's Financial Report,\* and many of them, especially the abolition of the cinnamon duty, strongly advocated by Sir Colin Campbell in November 1846, towards whom Lord Torrington evinces as little gratitude as he accuses me of showing towards himself.

37. With regard to the road ordinance, which, when well administered, is one of the most useful measures ever passed in this island, I confess that I am greatly surprised at the account of its origin given in Lord Torrington's letter, as it has hitherto been universally believed in Ceylon that the bill was framed by Mr. Wodehouse, the present Governor of British Guiana, aided upon some points by Mr. Dyke, the Government agent for the northern province, and carried through the Council with few or no amendments, as might have been expected from the long experience and eminently practical character of the two gentlemen to whom it was and is ascribed. Lord Torrington, however, has the merit of having seen its value, and of having given the measure his full support.

38. The services of the steamer might have been valuable had it been employed, as Lord Torrington no doubt believed that it had been; but a return in my possession shows that it only visited the pearl banks three times in eleven years,—once on the 19th of October 1840, returning November 15th; once on the 28th February 1848, returning 31st March\*; and once on the 23rd October 1851, when Lord Torrington had left the island, returning November 25th. In the intervals between these trips the steamer was used for general purposes, and was ultimately given up, because those purposes were not thought of sufficient importance to warrant the expense.

39. I shall now retire from a controversy into which I have been drawn reluctantly, and which it certainly was not my intention to provoke. I trust that I have not dealt discourteously with anything that Lord Torrington has advanced; but the error that seems to me to pervade his letter is this,—that he overrates what a Governor can do for a community, and underrates what the community does for itself, especially where, as in Ceylon, there is a large infusion of Anglo Saxon blood. No doubt it is right in principle to remove all legislative obstacles to the free development of trade; but the results are often affected by causes that no legislation can reach. I desire no better proof of

\* Oct. 22, 1846.

\* This was under Lord Torrington's administration.

this than the two reductions of duty upon which Lord Torrington principally relies, coffee and cinnamon. The entire removal of the duty on cinnamon has done little to reanimate the trade in that article. Why? Because it was already superseded in the European market by cassia, a cheaper and coarser spice, with which cinnamon can never successfully compete. Coffee, on the other hand, has found a constantly increasing demand in the growing consumption of England, Germany, and France. The Legislative Council of Ceylon has therefore, with perfect propriety, replaced the duty of 2½ per cent. which Lord Torrington took off, conceiving that the promised equivalent—a railway for which the duty forms a guarantee—will do infinitely more good than the duty will do harm, by giving to the planting districts a cheaper and quicker communication with the port of shipment.

40. My own conviction is, that the repeal of the duty has had as little influence upon the increase of coffee cultivation during the last ten years, as its reimposition will have in checking it. This increase is due to many concurrent causes,—a demand in Europe which the old coffee-growing countries were unable to supply, and, as a necessary consequence, remunerating prices; the facility of acquiring land in Ceylon at a moderate upset price, and the advantage of holding it under the safeguard of English law. Add to this a climate more congenial to English habits than that of Cuba or Brazil, with a soil as well suited to the growth of coffee, now that its peculiarities are understood; a Legislative Council with many of the realities of representative government, and complete freedom of the press;—all these are things that attract Englishmen, and when once the nucleus of an Anglo-Saxon community is formed, all that a Government has to do is to give its energies fair play.

41. It is the great commercial movement thus created that is carrying the vessel into port. It shows itself in everything,—the increase in the customs, the rise in the value of land, the larger receipts from tolls, salt, arrack, rice, the number of vessels frequenting the harbour, a higher standard of living amongst all classes, both European and native, and consequently a larger consumption of all their necessities and luxuries that the trade with Europe supplies; with an annually increasing investment of capital both in agriculture and trade. I watch this movement with the deepest interest; but, far from considering that the Government is the author of it, I can only hope that it may be enabled to keep pace with the efforts of the community, and that when my time here expires it may be said of me and of those who administer the Government with me, that by a prudent use of the larger means at our disposal we contributed something towards the general result.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) H. G. WARD.

Enclosure 1 in No. 35.

Encl. 1 in No. 35.

(No. 67.)

Surveyor General's Office, Colombo,

SIR,

June 10, 1857.

In compliance with the Minute of April 25, 1853, I have the honour to forward the Progress Report of this department for the past year.

Notwithstanding that two assistant surveyors were useless on account of ill health, that two others from the same or other causes afforded me but limited assistance, and that the cost of training eighteen sub-assistants (four of whom resigned), as well as the charge of 312*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.* for new instruments (since lost), are included in the expenditure quoted in the return, the increase in progress, and decrease in relative cost, of the year 1856 as compared with 1855, or with an average taken from an approximate summary of preceding years, is considerable.

The improvement is, however, *ceteris paribus*, less than it would have been had the system of accounts for this department been adapted to its peculiarities, in the manner I recommended shortly after my arrival in the colony.

I have, &c.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

(Signed) W. DRISCOLL GOSSET.

## Sub-Enclosure in Enclosure 1 in No. 35.

PROGRESS RETRIBUTION of the Surveyor General's Department from 1st January to 31st December 1856, showing the Number of Lots and Quantity of Land in each Province advertised for Sale in the Gazette of 1856, the Number of Lots and Quantity of Land sold in each Province, the Prices realized, the Fees recovered by the Surveyor General's Department, and the Expense of the Department, during the same Period.

ADVERTISED IN 1854.				SOLD IN 1856.				
No. of Lots.	Contents.	Remarks.		No. of Lots.	Contents.	Amount for which Sold.		Remarks.
		A.	B. P.		A. B. P.	£	s. d.	
112	Central Province	-	9,071 0 33	100	Central Province	-	13,018 7 11	
20	Western Province	-	4,060 3 14	91	Western Province	-	5,153 18 3	
		13,132 0 7				-	18,172 6 2	
EXPENDITURE.				RECEIPTS.				
Salaries	{ Fixed	-	3,424 17 9	By amount of fees received during the year 1856:—				
	{ Provisional and temporary	-	1,612 11 4	Central Province				
		-	5,037 9 1	Western Province				
Variable	{ Contingencies	-	166 4 10	North-Western Province				
	{ Transport	-	403 5 6	On copies of plans issued to different parties				
	{ Miscellaneous	-	2,379 2 1					
	{ New Instruments	-	312 8 10					
		-	3,963 1 3					
Total Expenditure for 1856				42,134 19 6				
				Total Receipts by sale of Land, and Fees				
				- 4,203 07 3 8				

## GENERAL REMARKS.

In addition to the regular surveys, other operations were carried on, such as surveys for land purposes, for connection of the work, &c. Forty miles of main roads were surveyed and mapped, and the survey of the town of Matelle considerably advanced.

In the town surveyor's branch, 255 cases of encroachment were investigated, and 179 removed. In the department generally, improvements have been steadily introduced, by which, notwithstanding the absence of two other assistant surveyors, and that the cost of training 18 sub-assistants (of whom four have quitted), and that 312<sup>4</sup> sq. fms. of instruments (since lost), have been charged in the expenditure, the average cost per acre quoted by the last committee on the survey department has been reduced by 4s. 4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> per acre; or, in other words, on the 13,123 acres advertised a saving of 2,832, 14s. 11<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d. has been effected. The total expenditure, deducted from the total receipts by sales and fees, leaves a gain of 12,002, 13s. 4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d. in favour of the revenue.

The outstanding applications for coffee land on the 1st January 1856 were 75, amounting to 10,573 acres; at the end of 1855, No. 91, acres 14,538.

The quantity of land advertised in 1856 exceeds that of any previous year since 1845.

Surveyor General's Office, Colombo, June 10, 1857.

(True copies.)  
H. BLAIR BLOOM.

(Signed) W. DRUSCOLL GOSSET.



## MINUTE ON THE NATANDE CANAL.

I HAVE carefully inspected the water communication between Colombo and Madampe, during the last few days, and have much pleasure in laying before the Council the result of my observations.

I do not consider that there is any difficulty whatsoever in obtaining and retaining the necessary depth of water for all the purposes of the usual traffic with Negombo and Putlam, between the mouth of the river at Mutwall and the Negombo lake. A few pieces of retaining wall, where requisite, and some obvious and simple precautions against the free entrance of mud and sand from the adjoining paddy fields into the bed of the canal, will supply all that is wanted at a moderate cost. Constant supervision, and a power in the superintendent immediately to remedy small defects upon his own responsibility,—instead of waiting for estimates and references, during which the evil may increase an hundredfold, and serious injury be done,—are more essential than a large outlay. But it is satisfactory to know, that where stone is wanting for walls or drainage pits, it is to be found in abundance and close at hand.

Between Negombo and Natande there is also no difficulty. The line of the water communication is traced out by nature's own hand. The supply of water is abundant enough to keep up, at all seasons, the depth required for the navigation (4 feet), and in parts of the canal not actually in use I have found a depth of from 4 feet to 5½ and 6 feet.

The sole interruption in the continuous line that ought to unite Colombo with Putlam occurs for 1½ mile between Natande and Madampe, beginning a mile to the north of the first place, and ending about the same distance below the bridge by which you approach the latter.

Here (above Natande) the excavations conducted by Mr. Campbell with much ability and success, until he was deserted by his labourers (whose numbers had been reduced by thirty deaths from fever), suddenly cease; and the Government has before it a report from this gentleman, pointing out the difficulties under which the latter part of his work had been conducted, from the numerous landslips that had occurred in consequence of the height of the banks of the canal, and of their tendency to give way when saturated with water from the surrounding paddy fields, which cover a large extent of country at a high level on both sides of the canal, and are allowed to discharge into it whatever is washed off them in heavy rains, without any precautions being taken to separate the water from the sand and mud.

These deposits, in the present state of the canal, necessarily remain undisturbed, there being no current of water to carry them off; and, with the occasional subsiding of the banks, may well have discouraged Mr. Campbell, with the small force at his command, though I do not think that they ought ever to have induced him to contemplate the abandonment of the work.

The fact is, that there is no engineering difficulty attending it worthy of the name. The banks of the canal do not, in any place, exceed 25 feet in height, and that only upon a very small portion of the line. Four-fifths of these banks are perfectly sound; and in those parts where slips have occurred, they are fully accounted for, in my judgment, either by the fact that they border upon one of the openings through which the drainage of the surrounding country passes into the canal, without the slightest attempt to give a proper direction to it, and to limit its effects; or that herds of buffaloes and native cattle have been allowed to establish crossings, where they pass and repass at pleasure, wearing down and levelling the banks.

Both these obstacles must be got rid of, and they may be so at a very trifling expense, when compared with the two remedies proposed,—a double lock, and a retaining wall; neither of which, in my opinion, would be of the slightest use.

The cost of the double lock is estimated by Mr. Smith at 3,300*l.*, and its effect would be simply to destroy the excellent natural level that already exists. A lock, wherever I have seen it applied, is intended to correct a difference of level, which could not otherwise be surmounted by boats; but between Natande and Madampe there is no such difference. And if by confining the water at both ends of the mile and a half, not yet excavated, we were to succeed in establishing a higher level for that space than is to be found above or below it, the result would be that boats must be lifted whichever way they were going, and lowered again when they came to the opposite lock.

The proof of this is, not only that the canal was once navigable from Putlam to the Maha Oya, but that there is no perceptible fall or current on either side of the present obstruction; so that the water on the Madampe side is only prevented from uniting with the water on the Natande side by an intervening bed of mud, from four to five feet in depth, which has not yet been cleared away.

When once this mud is removed, there is little doubt that the action of the water itself will do much to prevent its re-forming; so that the one thing needful is to prevent accidental deposits of earth, by strengthening the banks where the soil is loose, and by giving a proper direction to the drainage from the neighbouring land.

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The best mode of doing what is required will be to make a liberal use of piles, as is done in every railway cutting in England, where the soil will not stand of itself, or where the inclination is too steep to allow of its doing so;—and this, not by using large and costly piling, but by an abundant use of smaller piles driven into the bank, in three or four successive tiers, with clay rammed in above and between them, where further strengthening is required. I have seen this tried repeatedly, with the best effects, in England, and there is every facility for making the experiment here, where wood is abundant and cheap.

I am perfectly satisfied that by taking these precautions a most useful work may be completed in a very short time, without the risk or the annual outlay that we have been taught to apprehend; and I have consequently directed estimates to be prepared for the remaining mile and a half of excavation, which could not be begun, properly or profitably, before January next year.

For the meantime, I am of opinion that a large provision of piles should be made out of the 700*l.* remaining upon the vote for this year; and that Mr. Evans should be instructed to prepare plans and estimates for forming one or two drainage pits at the points where the largest amount of drainage now comes in, with masonry work attached to them, which may serve as a model for such others as may be required. These pits it will be necessary to clear out at stated times, at the cost either of the proprietors of the adjoining lands or of the Road Commission.

I must, however, observe, that the success of this or any other system that can be adopted depends upon a constant and vigilant superintendence.

It is unfair and unreasonable to suppose that an officer in charge of work of this description, half way to Putnam, can take charge of similar works within three miles of Colombo, and be responsible also for the repair of the roads between these two points. Such arrangements are equally injurious to the Government and to its servants. They are the worst economy on the one side, and the most certain discouragement on the other; for good men feel that no amount of physical exertion can enable them to satisfy such expectations, or to do well what they cannot personally inspect.

In England, with the highest trained labour in the world, no engineer or contractor would undertake the  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile of canal to which this minute refers, without having a practical man on the spot, to whom he would confide the working plans, with the entire responsibility of carrying them out accurately. In Ceylon, it is assumed that a young man, willing and zealous, but not professing to be an engineer, can train and direct a gang of 300 labourers, wholly without experience, in a work requiring the greatest care, and leave them to their own devices for four days out of six, this being the maximum of time that he could give in the week to the Natande cutting, if forced to attend to other duties 20 and 30 miles off.

It is my intention, therefore, to propose to the Executive, and subsequently to the Legislative Council, that Mr. Campbell be relieved from all duties south of the Maha Oya from the 1st of October next, and be directed to consider the opening of the canal to Putnam as his sole and peculiar care. I propose to assure him, that in this he shall have all reasonable aid and encouragement from the Government, which, being fully aware of the small amount of engineering talent now available in the colony for works of this description, will give him the more credit for difficulties successfully overcome. I should place in his hands the organization of the gang of labourers required for the work, and authorize him to offer a rate of pay somewhat beyond the ordinary rate, in consideration of the severity and unwholesomeness of the labour. And if unforeseen obstacles occur, which I see no reason to apprehend, I think that the whole engineering ability of the colony, military and civil, should be brought to bear upon them; and I cannot doubt that the Major-General, with his usual kindness, would afford any temporary assistance in the way of inspection and advice that might be required.

But in one way or the other the work must be done, for it would be a disgrace to Ceylon if the island were to lose the benefit of eighty-two miles of water communication in constant use up to 1836, because for one mile and a half the passage of boats is obstructed by an accumulation of mud, the fruit not of any great natural convulsion, but of continued neglect.

Had a fair portion of the tolls received up to 1836 been expended in annual repairs, no such interruption could have occurred; and having been for many years a trustee of the river Lea, which forms a short but important communication of about thirty miles between London, Herts, and Essex, I can inform the Executive Council, as a proof of the spirit in which these things are conducted when properly managed, that the trustees were perfectly satisfied when the expenditure of the year did not exceed the receipts, and that they were frequently obliged to incur debts upon the security of the tolls, to effect desirable improvements or to repair accidental damages.

At present the tolls that the Government might receive upon the Negombo canal are absorbed by the heavy demand for cartage between Natande and Madampe, while the traffic by water is discouraged by the delay, risk, and cost of this unshipping and reshipping of goods, for which the most inadequate arrangements are made.

I see reason to believe that the water carriage between Negombo and Putnam may be reopened from point to point, and the banks properly secured, at an expense not exceeding 3,000*l.*; and I hope that the Executive Council will concur with me in the propriety of

including a vote for this amount in the estimates for 1856. The 700*l.* now in hand should, as I have already suggested, be employed in such preliminary works as can be undertaken during the present year.

I am assured that the whole expense will not exceed 3,000*l.*, but it is better to have a margin in works of this description; and I therefore recommend an additional vote of 3,000*l.*, with the expression of my conviction that the object in view will be certainly and permanently attained for this sum, and the canal opened for general use within eighteen months after the works are commenced.

I shall only further remark that the same causes that have been fatal to the Negombo canal appear to me to be in equally dangerous operation as regards the bridges upon the whole line of road that I have traversed. Constructed, in the first instance, with a miserable parsimony, and consequently liable to perpetual damage from the giving way of planks not properly secured, or not substantial enough for the traffic, there is no one with powers to make repairs upon the spot when requisite; not a nail can be put in, or a rotten plank taken out, without an estimate,—possibly a surcharge,—certainly a lengthened correspondence, and the bridge is ruined before the forms are complied with.

In England every bridge would have its trustees, responsible for its maintenance, for which they are legally liable. Here, where the Government is the only trustee for the public, there is no such responsibility. The work of decay goes on unchecked and unnoticed, because, though we have officers, and good officers too, at the head of the department of Public Works, they cannot take a load of gravel from their own depôts, or a plank from the nearest store, without written permission from the Government. My conviction is, that men in situations of this nature must have a certain discretionary power, and be held responsible for its exercise. There cannot be too much strictness in accounts, and charges that can be foreseen ought always to be included in the estimates for the year. But there must also be a power of prompt action within certain limits, where required; and this as a matter of right, not of favour or indulgence.

I took the liberty of ordering the immediate repair of the Natande Bridge, which I found in so ruinous a state that we were forced to lead our horses over it, one by one, and at some distance from each other; and the Madampe Bridge is in an equally discreditable condition, many of the planks being rotten, and some entirely wanting.

Having communicated this minute to the Director of Public Works, I have the pleasure of finding that he entirely concurs in my views, both as to the probable amount of expenditure and the practicability of the plan proposed.

I beg, therefore, to recommend that Mr. Campbell be placed in charge of the works upon the canal between the Maha Oya and Madampe, so soon as a successor can be found for him in the Negombo district;

That Mr. Evatt be directed, in conjunction with this gentleman, to make arrangements for the piling, levelling of slopes, and drainage pits required between Natande and Madampe, within the limits of the 700*l.* still unexpended upon the vote of the current year;

That a vote of 3,000*l.* be proposed in next year's estimates for the completion of the work.

July 19th, 1855.

H. G. WARD.

Enclosure 3 in No. 35.

Encl. 3 in No. 35.

#### MINUTE ON THE BADULLA ROAD QUESTION.

HAVING inspected personally the various lines of communication with Badulla, I feel that the time is come when some decision respecting them should be taken, and submitted to the Legislative Council.

The actual produce of Badulla, and its future capabilities, entitle the district to much consideration. The number of acres already under crop is 2,776, and 6,201 acres more are bought, and ready to be brought into coffee cultivation, if there be such a prospect of improved communication with the ports of shipment as would warrant a further outlay of capital. The soil and the climate seem peculiarly adapted to the growth of the coffee plant, the native coffee throughout that part of Ouwah being singularly luxuriant, and there is a large extent of Crown land (7,000 acres) still unused in the magnificent forest below Happootella.

There is no doubt that there was a time when the Badulla planters suffered very severely from the difficulty of communicating with Colombo. The roads through the central province were in a bad state, and particularly that between Pinalawa and Nuwara Ellia. Coffee sent by that route cost 1*l.*s. per cwt., and being often six weeks upon the road was subjected to deterioration from long exposure to weather. If sent to Hambantotte (76 miles) or Batticaloa (72 miles) by Tavalam, the carriage was less, but the loss of time greater. Indeed, it frequently happened that no vessel visited those ports in which a valuable cargo could be risked until the shipping season was over on the western coast, when the charges for warehousing, and the loss of a whole season in the London market, were more than equivalent to the exorbitant bandy hire by Nuwara Ellia.

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In many respects this state of things has altered for the better. The complete restoration of the road over the Rambold Pass, and the good state of the Pusilawa and Gampola road generally, have placed larger and cheaper means of conveyance at the disposal of the Badulla planters; and for the first time, as I am informed, since the district was opened, the whole produce of the estates on the Badulla side was safely lodged in Colombo by the first week in May. I say on the Badulla side, because the estates are divided, one portion of them being situated in the immediate vicinity of Badulla, and the others upon a spur of the mountain inclining towards Haprootella, which the proprietors of these estates regard as their natural outlet.

This local distribution of the estates gives rise to some division of opinion amongst their owners, the Badulla planters being likely to derive as much advantage from the opening of the Lower Kandy road as from that by Ratnapoora, while those on the Haprootella side naturally conceive that the route through Saffragam would be most conducive to their interests, supposing the public finances to be in a state to admit of the opening of an entirely new line of communication in either direction. The Badulla estates are also in closer contact with the road by Wilson's langalow and Nuwera Ellia.

These being the points that I had to investigate upon my first visit to Badulla, I determined to examine all the lines personally. I had come to Badulla by the Nuwera Ellia road. I returned to Kandy by what is termed the Lower Badulla road, which follows for many miles the course of the Badulla Oya and the Malawila Gunga.

In point of distance this line has decided advantages over every other. It is 56 miles to Kandy, instead of 83 (by Nuwera Ellia), and of these 56 miles 22 are already completed, 10 miles of road being open for handies on the Badulla side, across the Teldenia Pass, and 12 more on the Kandy side, from the Maha Oya.

On the other hand, the Pass itself is a serious obstacle, the ascent and descent being the steepest incline that I ever saw attempted by wheeled carriages, and nearly impracticable for a loaded wagon. The distance from the top to the bottom is four miles. The angles of the road are most acute, and the nature of the ground is such as to render it impossible to improve them.

From the bottom of the Teldenia Pass to the Ooma Oya the distance is 16 miles, parts of which would be passable by a wheel carriage, with very little alteration; but at the fourth mile an obstacle presents itself, which, I fear, is insuperable, unless at a cost which the Government would hardly be justified in contemplating. I allude to the great masses of rock overhanging the Badulla Oya, and rendering the passage difficult even for a horse without a rider. To pass mounted, in many places, is impossible.

Not being an engineer, I cannot estimate the outlay that would be required to surmount this obstruction. But the difficulty of removing the upper stratum of rock, without destroying the ledge, which forms the only path along the precipitous bank of the river rolling some hundred feet beneath,—the immense mass to be displaced by blasting (for no other process would be of any avail),—and the distance over which this process must extend (at least a mile and a quarter), made me desirous to ascertain whether any means could be found of avoiding a difficulty which can hardly be encountered. I do not say that this is hopeless, but, from the peculiar nature of the ground, no line has yet been discovered that can be said to be practicable.

Supposing this obstacle to be overcome, we have then to deal with the Ooma Oya, which, with the Kurundu Oya and the Bilhool Oya, must be bridged over, if a bandy road, available for commercial purposes, be contemplated. This would involve a considerable outlay, the rivers being liable to sudden rises, which render the passage by ferry boat dangerous and uncertain.

Between the Ooma Oya and the Maha Oya (12 miles from Kandy), which must also be bridged, there are parts where the road is almost made naturally, but parts also that would require considerable expenditure. I should not, therefore, be justified in estimating the cost at less than 400*l.* per mile for earthwork, draining, levelling, &c. (as the Commissioner of Public Works has done, in his estimate for the road between Badulla and Haprootella), with 250*l.* more per mile if metalled. This, for 34 miles out of the 56, would make 22,100*l.*, independent of bridges, which could hardly be taken at less than 3,000*l.*; and I should be disposed to add 5,000*l.* more for the removal of the rocks between Teldenia and Ooma Oya, though, having no professional data to go upon, this must be taken as mere conjecture.

Perhaps I overrate the difficulties of this part of the work; but, supposing it to cost only 3,000*l.*, the expense of opening this road will amount to 28,000*l.* If my view of the case be right, the cost will be nearer 30,000*l.*; and I should observe that I have taken a very low amount for the bridges.

I was unable to visit the country between Ratnapoora and Haprootella until my return from my northern tour, in April. Haprootella I saw in January. The distance to Badulla is 28 miles, of which only seven (the Commissioner of Public Works says 10, to Navella) are passable for wheel carriages. From Mr. Bertlin's estate at Oodoo-werra the road or trace branches off up a steep ascent for some miles, then crosses some marshy ground, intersected by numerous channels conveying water to the rice grounds below, and winds, at last, round the side of steep hills, which skirt the coffee estates of Mr. Davidson. The trace is good. The ground presents no serious difficulties. It would be simply necessary to widen what is now a mere bridle path, such as those which inter-

sect in every direction Dimboola and Kotmalie, and to render it passable for bandies, metalling it if necessary.

The Commissioner of Roads estimates the cost at 400*l*. a mile; the bridges at 3,600*l*.; and the total outlay at 14,800*l*., with 7,000*l*. more for metalling; making 21,800*l*. in all. I think that a part of the work might be done for less; but I must, of course, abide by the professional opinion.

With respect to the road between Happootella and Ratnapoora, I could only obtain at Badulla the most inexact and contradictory information. By some gentlemen I was assured that of the 56 miles at least 40 were made, and would require little or no additional expenditure; by others, that not a mile of the line could be passed in safety, that in many parts the trace was lost, and that even on horseback it would be difficult to find a passage.

In both these statements there is considerable exaggeration.

In the first place, beginning at Ratnapoora, which was my starting point on my second visit to Happootella, there is a perfect carriage road, well traced, well made, and well metalled, extending from the Kalloo Ganga to the sixth mile-stone from Ratnapoora. Unfortunately, it ends in nothing.

The Roads' department some years ago imagined that it was possible to reach Palnadulla by a direct line, traversing the paddy fields, which occupy the lower portion of the valley. The land was taken on the public behalf, and an embankment raised for the space of six miles, to the injury both of the Government and of the landowners, the Government having been a loser in its paddy rents, and the landowners having suffered both by the extent of ground occupied by the embankment and by the intersection of the water-courses,—proper measures not having been taken to carry the water under the road or to supply sufficient channels for irrigation. I cannot too strongly deprecate this neglect of private rights and of the public interest in a country where, if roads are necessary, water is not less so; the one providing the means of conveyance, the other the produce to be conveyed to market. Many petitions upon the subject were presented to me at Palnadulla and Ratnapoora; and it is the more difficult to answer them, because the sacrifice imposed has been without results, it being now discovered that the upkeep of a line carried through ground subject both to natural and artificial inundations would be too costly to be advisable; in consequence of which, an entirely new line has been traced from Lillopethia, skirting the hills above the valley for four miles, in the direction of Palnadulla, and then crossing the valley at the narrowest point, but still in a manner open to objection, on account of its interference with the paddy cultivation. One mile and a half of the new trace are cut, but not made or metalled. Four miles and a half must still be completed before the road will reach Palnadulla, which is in itself a mere village, and only important as the point at which the coffee grown upon the Ballangodde estates, and upon the southern range near Rakwana (Mr. Shand's estate), may be put upon bandies and conveyed to the Kalloo Ganga (12 miles), from whence it will find its way, by the Calutra Canal, to Colombo.

Six miles, therefore, of metalled road on the Ratnapoora side (upon which a bridge, over a small Oya at the third mile from Ratnapoora, is still wanting to complete the communication for carts or carriages), and seven miles on the Badulla side, are all that is actually made of the 86 miles of road required to connect Badulla with Ratnapoora. Let us now look at the interval.

The distance from Palnadulla to Ballangodde is 14 miles; from Ballangodde to Kalapubana, 20; from Kalapubana to Happootella, 10; making 44 in all.

In the first 34 miles there is not one single yard of road that would be available, in its present state, for a bandy. The trace itself, though good enough for a bridle or tavalam road, would require large alterations before it could be used for wheel carriages, the ascents and descents being numerous and steep, and the road intersected by rivers, some of which, the Bilbool Oya in particular, between Alooenuwera and Mootetogamma, would require large and expensive bridges in order to keep open the communications during the rainy season.

The Roads' department has attempted to avoid some of these difficulties, by opening a new trace, half way between Palnadulla and Ballangodde, which branches off to the right, from a bad ford over the Madolla Ella. I am unable to state what improvement will be effected by this trace, as it is not yet passable even for horses, though ordnance labour has been employed upon it for the last three years. It re-enters what may be called the main line at Ballangodde, by traversing diagonally a long line of paddy fields; but a native officer is, I believe, responsible for the trace; and I doubt whether the anticipated improvement will outweigh the disadvantages of again interfering with the paddy cultivation of the district.

From Ballangodde to Alooenuwera (six miles) the road follows the Gallegnumma trace, parts of which are well laid down, while others would require entire alteration, especially those leading to the various Oyas that cross the road, some of which are now perfectly inaccessible. Between Alooenuwera and Mootetogamma (six miles) there are the same defects in the trace, and both the Bilbool Oya and a stream that precedes it would require bridging.

From Mootetogamma to Kalapubana (eight miles) the line seems to be as well laid out as the nature of the ground will admit of. But the natural difficulties are consi-

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derable, the work to be done heavy, the streams to be crossed numerous, and their increase so rapid, from the immediate vicinity of the mountains, which rise in this part 5,000 feet, up to the Horton plains, that whatever is done must be done with great solidity.

From Kalapuhana to Happootella the distance is about nine miles, and in that space more work of a durable and useful character has been done than in any other portion of the line between Palnadulla and Badulla.

The trace is cut to the proper width for a bandy road, bridges have been constructed, and retaining walls built, wherever a water-course crosses the road, especially upon that part of the line which is properly called the Pass, and which extends for about five miles from the entrance of the forest to Happootella.

Between Kalapuhana and the forest the path is a mere bridle path, and there is a waterfall, one mile from the village (the Kooda Oya), which crosses the way on a stratum of solid rock, deeply furrowed by the water, that must be impassable during the rainy season. The road from Happootella to Badulla I have already described.

It results from this statement, which is as correct as very careful personal observation can make it, that, although there are no insuperable obstacles to the construction of a road between Badulla and Ratnapoora, yet that the undertaking must be attended with heavy expense and with considerable difficulty. It is a delusion to suppose that any part of the task is already accomplished. I was assured at Badulla that 3,000*l.* would make the road passable. 3,000*l.* judiciously laid out would, no doubt, make an excellent tavalam road; but 30,000*l.* would not make a bandy road, with proper drainage and bridges. The present trace, in many parts, after a few hours' rain, becomes almost impassable for horses; and the changes in progress between Palnadulla and Ballangodde, as well as those to which I have adverted as indispensable between that place and Kalapuhana, if the road is ever to be used as a bandy road, show that very little of the work now done would stand the test of a fresh survey, and that the road, if undertaken, must be considered as a new road, and estimated for accordingly. I wish that I could arrive at a different conclusion, but such is my conviction.

What then would be the cost of this new road, and what its advantages? These, of course, ought to bear some proportion to the charges incurred in making it.

For the cost, I must refer to the accompanying report of the Acting Commissioner of Public Works, with which I do not entirely agree, for I think the mileage underrated, and I cannot admit that there are more than seven miles of road (in lieu of ten) made on the Badulla side; the calculation should therefore commence at Oodoo-werra, not at Navalla. But admitting that the estimate is liberal enough to cover this excess, the cost of a metalled road from Badulla to Lillopethia, up to which point the work is complete on the Ratnapoora side, would be 33,600*l.*; the cost of an unmetalled road, 38,100*l.* The last alternative it would be unwise to contemplate, as the road, if made, ought to be serviceable at all seasons.

Such a road would, undoubtedly, give to the estates on the Happootella side of Badulla the readiest access to Colombo, by reducing the bandy carriage of their coffee to 56 miles, that being the distance between Happootella and Ratnapoora, where they would obtain water carriage.

It would bring into the market the splendid forest which lies between Happootella and Kalapuhana, containing near 7,000 acres.

It would open the communication between Ouwah and Saffragam, which last province, though rich and populous, has hitherto had by no means its fair share of the public expenditure.

On the other hand, the Happootella estates comprise only 590 acres, of which 300 acres are under crop, producing 250 cwts. of coffee.

The trade between Ouwah and Saffragam is limited to cocoanuts, areca nuts, and iron tools (hoes, bill-hooks, &c.), which are made in Atta-kalan Corle, and are still in considerable demand, notwithstanding English competition. These are the only articles of native produce likely to use the road, if made, and they might be sent by Tavalam, as at present. There would also be salt and cloths from Cultura; but the native coffee, which, with rice, is the principal source of wealth in Saffragam, all goes the other way, and finds access, by the river, to the Colombo market.

I cannot, under these circumstances, conscientiously recommend that 33,600*l.* should be appropriated out of the public revenue to this undertaking, at a time when districts of infinitely more importance, in point of produce, are equally unprovided with the means of communication. But I should not object to see a vote for 2,000*l.* to be distributed over two years, applied to this line of communication, upon a well-considered plan, having due regard to the ultimate conversion of the road into a bandy road, when the revenue is able to afford it.

I have also directed an estimate to be prepared for the completion of the road between Lillopethia and Palnadulla, which is entirely useless in its present state, whereas at Palnadulla it will become available, as I have already pointed out, for the conveyance of coffee from the Ballangodde and Rakwana estates (Mr. Shand's) to Colombo, by the Kallio Ganga.

The question of the Lower Badulla road might be considered, if the opinion of the district were not so decidedly hostile to the project, that I see little use in attempting to

open a line, at a cost of 50,000*l.*, which the parties supposed to be most interested in it say will not be of the slightest utility to them. I must admit, too, that, except as the shortest possible communication between Badulla and Kandy, the line presents few advantages. The country through which it passes is jungle. Parts of it are notoriously unhealthy, and the few scattered villages to be found at long intervals have little traffic either with each other or with Kandy. There is, therefore, nothing to support the road, except native coffee, and the coffee from the estates within six or seven miles of Badulla; and this certainly would not pay for the upkeep of the line, much less any interest upon the capital sunk in it.

Under these circumstances the course that I recommend is, to abandon both these projects altogether, and to devote to the metalling and general improvement of the road by Wilson's bangalow and Nuwera Ellis the whole of the money that can be fairly allotted, during the next three years, for the benefit of the Badulla district. I have said that that district deserves assistance from the State, on the ground of its natural capabilities, and of the capital already laid out there. I think that its development will be rapid, if it has this assurance. And though I cannot, in justice to other districts, propose that 55,000*l.*, or 28,000*l.*, should be sunk for this purpose, I am quite prepared to recommend a vote of 8,000*l.* for metalling, widening, and generally improving the 30 miles of road that are still in want of these advantages, upon a line that forms not only the link with Badulla, but the sole means of communication, for military or commercial purposes, between the central province and that large portion of the island which lies to the eastward of the Nuwera Ellis mountains. The usual estimate for metalling is 250*l.* per mile, which, for 30 miles, would make 7,500*l.* I allow 500*l.* for other improvements. This plan appears to me to combine public considerations with local advantages. The work is, in a great measure, done already. The road is open; it must be maintained. A considerable traffic passes over it. By far the largest portion of the Badulla coffee has been sent by this route this year to Colombo for shipment. If the railway to Kandy be made, the Badulla planters will have the benefit of it, precisely to the same extent as the planters of Pussilawa or Dimboola, with this difference, that they have, for their own purposes, and of their own free will, located themselves at a somewhat greater distance from Kandy than those engaged in similar pursuits had thought advisable. It is impossible for the Government to place all upon precisely the same level in this respect. Something must be left to individual judgment; and all that the State can be fairly expected to do is, to give to each the best means of communication that the state of the revenue, and the extent to which the particular district contributes to it, will warrant. In my judgment, all that the Badulla district can fairly claim, at present, will be done, if the actual means of communication be put into a state of thorough repair, and kept so. Their access to Colombo by Batticaloa or Hambantotte will, I hope, be greatly facilitated by the establishment of a screw steamer, touching at those ports once a month, and able to carry a considerable amount of cargo. The communication by Tavalam, between Happestella and Palamadulla, up to which place a carriage road will be completed, if my present proposal be adopted, will be of advantage to the Happestella estate; and as the produce of the district increases, as more capital is invested, more land brought into cultivation, and a larger nucleus of English population and interests formed, there will be more to induce the Legislative Council to give its assent to any measures that experience may show to be necessary for its farther development.

I cannot conclude this minute without adverting to the state of the road between Colombo and Ratnapoora, and recommending that a vote should be taken for completing the two miles that still remain unfinished, and for throwing a bridge over the two substantial piers that stand in readiness to receive it, although, as is too much the custom in Ceylon, when the principal expense has been incurred, the bridge itself is forgotten.

The temporary road made by ordinance and prison labour to connect the main road with the town is under water for some weeks in the year; and it is hardly creditable to the Government or the Legislature to bring to "so lame and impotent a conclusion" a work upon which so large an amount of public money has been expended.

H. G. WARD.

SIR,

Colombo, March 28, 1856.

BY the desire of Your Excellency, I beg to enclose a rough memorandum of the probable cost of opening, to a carriage road, that portion of the Badulla and Ratnapoora line which requires to be so opened. I may explain that on the Badulla side 10 miles are already a sufficient width for wheel traffic, and on the Ratnapoora 6 miles. That it would be desirable to open this road there can be no doubt, but it is a matter of great consideration whether the advantage to be gained will be equivalent to the cost of the undertaking. It would appear to me, that as far as Ouvah is concerned, that if a good tavalam road was made, and the bridges built, no more ought to be expected; but for Saffragam, in my humble opinion, a carriage road should be made, at all events as far as Balangodde, as it runs through a rich and populous district, and for which, as yet (as far as roads are concerned), very little has been done. Your Excellency will be able to judge

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better of this from personal observation, as I have been informed that you contemplate a visit to the Saffragam district in the course of next month.

To His Excellency the Governor.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

H. A. EVATT.

The probable cost, in the rough, of opening for a Cart Road that portion of Ratnapoora Road which lies between Navalla and Lillopethia,—a distance of 62 miles.

*In the Ouwah District.*

From the junction of Hambantotte Road at Navalla to Happootella	15 miles
Boundary of district	13 "
	<hr/> 28 miles
Earth work, draining, blasting, levelling, per mile	£400
	<hr/> 11,200
Bridges	3,600
	<hr/> £14,800
If to be metalled, 250 <i>l.</i> per mile must be added	7,000
	<hr/> £21,000

*In the Saffragam District.*

From boundary of district at Goracundera Ella to Balangodde	13 miles
From Balangodde to Lillopethia	21 "
	<hr/> 34 miles
Earth work, draining and blasting, levelling, &c., per mile	£450
	<hr/> 15,300
Bridges, probable	8,000
	<hr/> £23,300
If to be metalled, 250 <i>l.</i> per mile	8,500
	<hr/> £31,800

*Abstract.*

In the Ouwah district	£21,800
In the Saffragam district	31,800
	<hr/> £53,600
Deduct cost of metalling the whole distance	15,500
	<hr/> £38,100

Encl. 4 in No. 35.

Enclosure 4 in No. 35.

MINUTE ON THE NORTHERN PROVINCE.

HAVING devoted a considerable portion of my late tour to an examination of the state of the northern provinces, I regard it as a public duty to place upon record the expression of my entire satisfaction with the system pursued by the Government agent, Mr. Dyke, in all that relates to the native population, and of my extreme gratification at the results.

It would be difficult to suggest a single improvement in the mode of conducting business in the departments of the Local Government.

The work of the catcherry is so well classed and subdivided, that there is not a point upon which the minutest details may not be procured upon the shortest notice; and the department of Public Works appears to me to be equally well conducted, for nothing can exceed the perfection of the roads, the good repair of the public buildings in and near Jaffna, the solidity of the bridges, and the general cleanliness of the town.

Without in any way detracting from the merits of Mr. Byrne, the officer in charge of this department, I think that the praise of having accomplished, with very small means, greater results than have been achieved in any other part of Ceylon, in the way of



facilitating the communications between the most important points of the peninsula, and of opening every available market to its produce, is due principally to Mr. Dyke's steady perseverance in a well-considered plan, and to the care with which the proceedings of the road department and of the Provincial Committee have been directed to the same ends. A large portion of the labour and funds available under the road ordinance goes to the repair of the main lines of road. Mr. Byrne acts for the committee as well as for the department of Public Works. The same spirit pervades the two; they have common objects, and, so far as the law will allow of it, common means; and the fruits of this united action go far to justify an opinion expressed by Sir William Molesworth in one of the last despatches that I received from him, namely, that without bringing the application of the local and the general funds into perfect harmony with each other, the maintenance of the roads in Ceylon would never be satisfactory to the Government or to the public. The difficulty is, that to produce this harmony there must be at the head of the Local Government a man perfectly and personally acquainted with every matter connected with his province, able to judge of the relative importance of its wants, and firm enough to carry out with impartiality what he believes to be most conducive to its good. This in England would be left to local trusts, or to the municipalities of large towns. Here it devolves upon the Government agent, under the control of the general Government; but where the Government agent does his duty, as Mr. Dyke has done his for 22 years, his recommendations cannot be too favourably received by the general Government and the Legislative Council in considering the estimates for the year. They form parts of a whole, and if the parts be materially altered the whole may be endangered.

It was most gratifying to me to find proofs amongst all classes of the warm and grateful feelings with which Mr. Dyke's services are acknowledged by the whole Tamil population.

I do not mean that there were no complaints: petitions abound during a Governor's progress; but, upon the most careful examination of their allegations, I can hardly discover a single real grievance. Most of the complaints that reached me were of a very vague character, and bore principally upon evils which no Government can pretend to remove.

The high price of paddy in an importing country, when prices are high in the country from which its supplies are drawn; the high rate of interest on money; the high price of land; the propriety of re-establishing all the village headmen whom the wise policy of the Government has successively reduced; the want of a police (a question now decided); the imperfect drainage of Jaffna; the absence of a large system of education at the public expense to fill the gap created by the cessation of the missionary schools; the abolition of the rice duty, and of the monopolies of salt and arrack; the hardships to which Moorish females are exposed by being summoned as witnesses before the courts, and subjected to the quarantine regulations for the prevention of small-pox; the operation of the Ordinance, No. 7. of 1853, by which imprisonment for debts under 10*l.* in amount was abolished; and the want of good gravelled roads to Colombo and Trincomalee;—these are the points that were principally urged upon me during my stay, and they cannot be said to constitute a heavy bill of indictment against either the general or the local Government.

Such of these as merit consideration, and admit of legal remedy, shall have the one, and may expect the other from the kindly consideration of the Legislative Council. I see no reason, for example, why the law of Ceylon should not be assimilated to that of India as regards the mode of receiving the depositions of female Mahomedans, since it is notorious that the power of summoning them as witnesses is abused, in the hope that they will submit to an unjust claim rather than appear in court to resist it. In like manner, it is well worthy of consideration whether the place of the missionary educational establishments should be supplied by some Government establishment of a similar nature, or whether the money voted for the Wesleyan and other missions, which still maintain schools, will suffice.

Without anticipating the opinions of the Council upon this point, I beg to record my own, that whatever system be adopted it should not be gratuitous, and that the amount required from each scholar should be sufficient to put some check upon that too easy acquisition of the rudiments of knowledge which fills every Government office with noisy applicants for place, and strips the fields of that labour which is the real source of wealth in a country four-fifths of which are still uncultivated. The results of the experience of the last 30 years have, in the opinion of the most competent judges, been anything but favourable to too extensive a scheme of education. It has not tended to disseminate Christianity or to check vice; while it has given an unhappy celebrity to the Tamil-English juries, composed of men whom a smattering of English raises above the employments to which they were born, without fitting them for any other, and has led to a system of forgeries and personations, which are more prevalent in the northern province than in any other.

But if upon one point I speak unfavourably, let me do the Tamils justice upon many others. Their industry, the beauty of their cultivation, the marvellous account to which they turn a soil, light but fertile, wherever water can be procured; the rapid progress of their tobacco crops, the exports of which have risen in value from 2,600*l.* in 1836, when

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the trade was crushed by the Government monopoly, and the high customs duty that followed, to 55,000*l.* in 1854, with every probability of a steady increase, especially if the restrictive system were relaxed in Travancore; the innumerable wells sunk throughout the peninsula; the active and enterprising spirit shown in the ports of Point Pedro and Valvetytorre, through which, in consequence of the difficult navigation between Jaffna and Kayts, nearly the whole of the trade with the coast of India is conducted; the steady decrease of crime; and the grateful sense expressed by all classes of the benefits which they enjoy under British rule, so forcibly brought home to them by the Local Government under the long and able administration of Mr. Dyke, were to me sources of pride as an Englishman, and of the sincerest gratification as the Queen's representative.

I have, under these circumstances, had no hesitation in shaping my communications with those who addressed me (except upon one point, to which I shall advert presently), in terms that appeared to me the best calculated to strengthen the influence of the Government agent, and to impress all parties with the belief that, in carrying out his plans, he may rely upon my cordial co-operation.

I have held out no false hopes. I have repudiated all impracticabilities. I have said plainly that Government cannot feed everybody, or employ everybody, or drain everybody's field, or repair everybody's tank, where there is no public or general interest to be promoted by its intervention.

But I have said also that it can, and ought to, remove all obstacles that stand in the way of individual efforts; to give the widest scope to the operations of trade; and to distribute impartially the funds at its command, after providing for the exigencies of the State in the works most conducive to the general interest.

Upon these points I hope that I have seen and learnt much during the last six weeks that will render my visit, in any future consideration of its affairs, not altogether useless to the northern province.

With regard to the staple produce of the peninsula, tobacco, the subject is one that cannot receive too much attention. The soil and climate are peculiarly favourable to the growth of this plant, and its cultivation is superior to anything that I have seen in the Mediterranean. Of its quality there can be no better proof than the fact that the Government of Travancore, in order to command a sale of the tobacco prepared in the Government factories, is forced to mix a certain amount of Jaffna tobacco with that which it procures at lower prices and of an inferior description from various parts of India. If the monopoly were done away with a much greater bulk of Jaffna tobacco would be used. The cultivation of rice, which cannot pay at the present price of land near Jaffna (from 30*l.* to 50*l.* an acre) would be given up, and a large system of exchange adopted, the results of which would be doubly advantageous, since they would break down a second monopoly, which the Colombo Chamber of Commerce has complained of as materially affecting the trade of Ceylon, it being the practice of the Government of Travancore to receive payment in peppers and cardamoms from the chiefs to whom the tobacco from the Government factory is consigned, and to limit the trade in those articles to its own agents. The attention of the Governor General of India has already been called to this system, and his intervention promised.

The one point upon which I have differed from Mr. Dyke is the position of his own countrymen in the northern province, which I do not think satisfactory; and I have not disguised my opinion that capitalists who have laid out 10,000*l.* in Crown land, and have expended nearly 200,000*l.* in the endeavour to bring that land into cultivation, have a right to expect that much consideration should be shown for their interests; that all reasonable facilities should be given to them in the way of postal and other communications; that they should have a seat and a voice, as the planters of the central province have, in the Provincial Committee, and some part in the administration of justice; in short, that they should be treated as a body of men in whose fate the Government takes a deep interest, and in whose success it sees an additional element of prosperity.

I have no wish to reopen the causes that have disturbed in the northern province this natural state of feeling. The differences that have arisen have been principally of a public character, and the faults appear to me to have been pretty equally divided. The planters have always assumed, and no doubt honestly believed, that the completion of the road from Jaffna to Elephants Pass was the condition upon which their lands were bought; and they have consequently regarded the slow progress of that road as a breach of faith, which they laid to the charge of the Government agent, while the Government agent, never having been officially informed of the existence of such an engagement, and having no funds for its fulfilment except those voted specially from time to time by the Legislature, has just as naturally shrunk from a task the difficulties of which are considerable, on account of the distance from which the materials have to be conveyed, and which must have absorbed a large proportion of his available resources in money and labour.

Some of the differences to which this state of feeling gave rise have been happily ended by the completion of the metalled road to the 24th milestone, which brings it into the vicinity of the principal estates, and enables the owners of most of them to receive their letters by the morning mail coach from Jaffna, without having more than four miles to send for them. The value of this change can only be appreciated by those who have waded through the ocean of deep sand, beginning from the point at which you leave

the finished road, and extending to Pass Beshuter on the one side and to the Elephants Pass on the other. The Government is, I think, bound to extend to all the same advantages, by continuing the metalled road to the 28th milestone as soon as practicable. It will then remain to be considered by what precise route it should be carried on to Elephants Pass, where it will communicate with the great northern road, the state of which has been to me a source of equal surprise and gratification, for I had no idea that during nine months of the year a wheel carriage might pass from Colombo to Jaffna without any other obstacles than those which occur between Matelle and the point a little beyond Dambool, at which the road to Anuradhapura enters the Newerakalavia district.

Throughout the northern province, or at all events from Jaffna to Kekraiwae, a distance of 150 miles, the road is perfectly safe, and two-thirds of it are as good as any traveller need desire.

This is the more creditable to the local authorities, as the annual repairs after the rains are entirely conducted by ordinance labour.

I shall now proceed to state succinctly various items of expenditure which I found it necessary to provide for by a supplementary vote during my stay in the northern province, the works being urgently required, although in most cases the ultimate provision to be made for them is left for the decision of the Legislative Council.

#### PLANTING INTEREST.

The coconut estates of the northern province are confined to the Patchelopalli district, which extends from Kodigama to Pass Beshuter. The principal estates lie between the 17th and 28th milestones right and left of the road to Jaffna. There are only two estates, that of Mr. Dunlop and a new clearing belonging to Messrs. Wilson and Ritchie, beyond the 28th mile; but the whole of the estates depend upon the main line of road for their supplies and the conveyance of their produce to the port of shipment, which is either Point Pedro or Jaffna. It is, therefore, of the greatest importance to them that this road should be completed, and it was under the belief that it would be so, though I am not aware of the existence of any positive engagement to that effect, that, as I have already stated, 10,000 acres of Crown land were bought, and 200,000*l.* expended in bringing it to its present high state of cultivation.

Having inspected personally six of the principal estates, and other gentlemen of my party having visited several of the remainder, I am enabled to state that they are all in a most satisfactory condition, well fenced, well cultivated, and rapidly approaching the period when a very large amount of copra, or oil (should steam machinery be established at a convenient point), may be prepared for exportation.

It is, therefore, doubly desirable that facilities should be given for conducting a business which promises to add largely to the commercial importance of Ceylon, and the completion of the metalled road up to the 28th milestone appears to me to be the first and most essential step to be taken. The difficulties to be overcome in carrying on this road are very considerable, for the whole country is sand, and no stone is to be found within many miles of the point at which the present road terminates. It is, however, ascertained that a mixture of shell and gravel may be procured in sufficient quantities from a lagoon to the north of the intended line of road, provided a raised causeway be made across a swamp which renders the approach to it difficult. This must be done in the dry season (between March and September) if the gravel from the lagoon is to be made available next year; and I have, consequently, authorized an expenditure of 200*l.* to be charged to the supplementary vote for the present year, for the purpose of constructing this causeway, in the full belief that the Legislative Council will not refuse a vote of 1,500*l.*, which it is my intention to propose in the estimates for 1857, for the purpose of extending the metalled road from the 24th to the 28th milestone, reserving the question of its completion to Elephants Pass for further consideration.

The planters having complained to me by deputation of the difficulties that attend the administration of justice in the Patchelopalli district, the nearest resident magistrate being at Chavagacherry, I have suggested the remedy which has been adopted with so much success at Navellapittia and Pusilawa, viz., that the magistrate of Chavagacherry should hold a petty sessions once a fortnight in the vicinity of the estates for the hearing of small cases. Mr. Dyke has offered to transfer for this purpose to the 22nd or 24th milestone a catecherry bungalow now at Pella bazaar, which will answer the purpose of a court until a building to be used both as court and rest house can be erected; and the cost of this transfer, which will not exceed 30*l.*, must be included in the supplementary estimate. The sole additional expense will be the magistrate's travelling expenses and a small increase of his establishment.

I shall take an early opportunity of placing two of the leading planters in the commission of the peace; and the Government agent having proposed that Mr. Gordon should be appointed a member of the Provincial Committee, I have had much pleasure in sanctioning this arrangement, which I trust will be found to work satisfactorily.

The coconut district is, no doubt, entitled to a share of the labour and funds raised under the Road Ordinance, corresponding with its own contributions; and any differences that may arise as to the amount of this share, or the proper mode of applying it, will be more easily settled when the planters have a representative upon the committee.

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## POINT PEDRO.

The importance of this small port is daily increasing, in consequence of the delay and losses caused by the transhipment at Kaita of cargoes intended for Jaffna. The customs receipts already exceed 4,000*l*. The accommodation provided is most inadequate, and at certain seasons the port is unapproachable, from the want of anchorage, even for the smallest vessels engaged in the coasting trade.

Nature has, however, done something towards this, by placing a coral reef parallel with the beach, with a gap or entrance through which small vessels now pass, provided they draw only four feet water. It was represented to me\* that to deepen this entrance to eight feet, and to give the same depth, uniformly, to the cove, within the reef, would require nothing but a small grant of money and manual labour, the coral reef being easily worked, and the process requiring no scientific superintendence, while the advantages to the trade of the place would be obvious, as most of the vessels frequenting the port would then have a place of refuge in bad weather.

Having inspected the site with Mr. Dyke, and seen the channel buoyed out by men, stationed on each side of it, I am satisfied that the plan is easy of execution; and, as the work must be done before the beginning of the north-east monsoon, I have authorized an expenditure of 200*l*., to be charged to the supplementary vote, with which, in my opinion, the largest portion of the excavation ought to be completed. A regular estimate will be prepared by Mr. Byrne, and submitted to the Legislative Council.

## VALVETTY-TORRE.

This port is the neighbour and rival of Point Pedro, to which all its vessels are now forced to resort, Valvetty-torre not being a port of entry. The accompanying petition† shows the feelings of the inhabitants upon the subject, and the grounds upon which they claim equality, if not a preference. The number of vessels owned by them is large; and as the only check upon that monopolizing spirit, of which so many complaints reached me, consists in multiplying the channels through which supplies of all kinds reach the people, I am disposed to think that the question of making Valvetty-torre a port of entry merits consideration. On the other hand, it is only separated from Point Pedro by five miles of excellent road. There is danger, and there is expense, in every increase of establishment. The total amount of trade at the two ports is not large; and the only hope that I held out was, that I would bring the matter before the Executive Council.

## DAILY POST TO POINT PEDRO.

A daily post to Point Pedro being much wanted, I have authorized its establishment, at an expense not exceeding 36*l*., upon the assurance of the Government agent that the proceeds will cover a considerable portion of the cost.

## JAFFNA HOSPITAL.

I have also been earnestly solicited to take into consideration the state of this most useful and interesting establishment, the only one of the kind available for 200,000 people. The papers which accompany this minute‡ show that the Government has only contributed 400*l*. (towards the purchase of land for the site, there being no Crown land in Jaffna) out of 1,637*l*. already expended. The results produced by the institution are most gratifying; and though the number of in-door patients is limited by the want of a female ward, and of sufficient space even for the male applicants, the confidence inspired by the system of management, and the success that has attended the medical operations, have gone far to wane the Tamil population from its prejudices in favour of a most ignorant and mischievous race of native practitioners, and to induce them to look with confidence to European science.

The one thing wanting to secure these advantages is the establishment of a female ward, for which the land is already purchased; and feeling confident that the work is one to which the Government will gladly lend its aid, I have authorized an expenditure of 400*l*. upon the buildings required for the female ward, leaving the Council to consider the propriety of raising the Government contribution, ultimately, to a par with that of the public, by a further grant of 400*l*., which will still be wanted, in order to increase the accommodation in the male hospital.

## REST-HOUSES.

The state of the rest-houses in the northern province is deplorable. Year after year estimates have been sent in for their repair upon the three principal lines of road, and year after year the state of the finances has rendered it necessary to defer compliance with this most just and necessary requisition.

\* See Appendix A., page 301.

† See Appendix B., page 301.

‡ See Appendix C., page 302.

The consequence is that the public will very shortly be deprived altogether of an accommodation which, to the majority of travellers, is indispensable. Travelling, as I have done, with tents, I can honestly state my opinion that the worst rest-house is better than the best tent, either in very hot or in very rainy weather. But to those who travel without tents, the worst rest-house implies shelter, comfort, and health, or exposure to weather, and fever. I look upon it, therefore, as a matter of duty on the part of the Government to maintain these buildings, without the aid of which it will be impossible for any public servant to do his duty properly; and I have, consequently, sanctioned an expenditure of 105*l.* over and above the sums provided in the estimates for the year, for the repair of the rest-houses at Passa Beshuter, Sandicoloni, and Mullative, where the gale of December last has done much damage.

I have also granted 25*l.* for the rebuilding the school at Mullative, which was blown down in the gale. It was attended by 60 boys; and most of the materials may be made use of, if the work be undertaken immediately. 10*l.* more are required for the assistant agent's house; and it is desirable that whatever is done at this place should be done simultaneously, as the workmen employed, and the materials, must all be sent from Jaffna.

The Government agent has pressed upon me a grant of 80*l.* for completing a causeway across the swamp, by which the station at Mullative is approached, and without which it is inaccessible in rainy weather. The Provincial Committee will give an equal amount, and the work may then be completed within the year. It must stand over for two years, if left until sufficient local funds have accumulated.

#### BRIDGE ACROSS SALT RIVER.

A similar vote in aid, for a bridge intended to cross the Salt river between Kopay and Kalthadaly, is asked. The amount will be 800*l.* The road has been completed on each side of the bridge by the Provincial Committee, but it has no funds for the bridge, which will open a most important line of communication. I have therefore taken the responsibility of granting 400*l.*, leaving the remaining 400*l.* to be provided for in the estimates for 1857, should the Legislative Council concur in the view which I have taken of this matter.

#### ELEPHANTS' PASS.

The precarious nature of this ford, which is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile across, and varies in depth according to the weather, renders it desirable that a toll should be imposed, and a means of crossing by boat provided for those who choose to avail themselves of it. Mr. Dyke suggests that a large canoe should be tried for a year as a ferry-boat. The supplementary vote would not exceed 20*l.*, which I have sanctioned. If the boat should not, ultimately, cover its own expenses, it must be discontinued.

#### GALLOUT AT MANAAR.

The gaol at Manaar is in a state which renders it totally unfit for the custody of prisoners. A plan for building a new gaol, which, even then, was thought necessary, was sanctioned in 1841 by Mr. Stewart Mackenzie. The estimate was 298*l.* The estimate for the repair of the present gaol, leaving it a bad and most inconvenient building, is 120*l.* One or the other must be done immediately; and thinking it most undesirable to spend 120*l.* in repairing a bad gaol, when a new and commodious one may be built for 300*l.*, I have authorized an expenditure of 150*l.* in collecting materials for the new work, should the Legislative Council think fit to include the remaining 150*l.* in next year's estimates.

#### ARIFU PEARL FISHERY.

The Government agent states that the accommodation for civilians (clerks, &c.) during the fishing season is most inadequate, and that the knowledge of this, and the fear of the inconvenience that results from it, increase the difficulty of inducing proper men to volunteer for the service. Mr. Dyke's proposal last year was, to erect a certain number of buildings with brick floors, coral pillars, and a moveable Palmyra roof, which might have been taken to pieces at the close of the season; but the expense was considered too large, and it would now be too late to begin building for the fishery of 1857.

As the prospects of this fishery are very promising, according to a report that I saw just before leaving Anaradhapoora, and as there seems to be a great probability that another fishery may be reckoned upon in 1859, I think that the Government will do wisely to reconsider Mr. Dyke's proposal, and to make such arrangements for 1859 as will, at the smallest cost, ensure the health and decent comforts of its employes.

#### ANARADHAPOORA.

The state of the public buildings at this station is really disgraceful. The butchery consists of a miserable court-house, deficient in height, space, and accommodation, and two small rooms attached to it, in which a man, standing up, can touch the roof with his

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hand. The house occupied by the assistant agent is the rest-house; to which Mr. Flanderka, at his own expense, has added two sheds, by way of stores and godowns. There is, consequently, no rest-house at all. And with these appliances and means it is expected that the business of the Government is to be carried on, and justice administered to 60,000 people, in a climate remarkable for heat and fever, which for three months in the year render the place uninhabitable.

The Government appears to have been conscious of these deficiencies, and desirous to remedy them, for in 1851 it sanctioned the building of a house for the assistant agent, which was begun by Mr. Brodie; and a vote for a new court-house, and for the enlargement of the cutcherry, was taken in the estimates for the current year. Unfortunately, the building of the assistant agent's house was interrupted by some misunderstanding with the Department of Public Works, after the foundations were laid, and the walls raised four feet from the ground; and at the present moment the Local Government is authorized to proceed with the cutcherry, but not with the court; whereas the repair of the cutcherry cannot be commenced until the new court is completed. The estimates, too, for both, are said to be inadequate, and should be raised from 60*l.* and 75*l.* to 100*l.* each, or the work can never be done satisfactorily.

Under these circumstances, I have authorized an outlay of 200*l.* in bricks and Palmyra wood (to be fitted in Jaffna) for the walls and roof of the assistant agent's house, the plan of which appears to me to be simple and convenient; and I have directed an estimate to be prepared of the total expense of completing it next year, to be laid before the Legislative Council. I have also desired Mr. Flanderka to proceed at once with the new court-house, at a cost not exceeding 100*l.*, leaving the repairs of the cutcherry to be re-voted in next year's estimates.

Mr. Flanderka is perfectly competent to carry out a plan prepared by Mr. Byrne with the aid of native workmen; and Mr. Byrne, having no European assistant until the return of Mr. Quinton, cannot personally attend to the execution of distant works in so extensive a district without neglecting more important duties.

When the court-house, the government agent's house, and the cutcherry, are completed, the present assistant agent's house being reconverted into a rest-house, I can foresee no occasion for further expenditure at Anamdhapooru for some years, unless a bridge, for which a large quantity of timber has been already cut, should be carried across the river. The cost of this I have at present no means of estimating.

The insalubrity of this station is ascribed, in a great measure, to want of good water, that drawn from the tank becoming fetid at the close of the dry season.

It is supposed that well-water might be found throughout the plain, at a depth of forty feet; but upon this point I have no data that would justify me in expressing an opinion.

#### GENERAL REMARKS

Having thus dealt with the questions involving actual expenditure, I shall proceed to call the attention of the Council to some other matters, which I think deserving of its consideration.

##### *Police at Jaffna.*

A very strong feeling was evinced in many of the petitions presented to me respecting the want of adequate protection at Jaffna; and though crimes of violence\* have certainly diminished of late to an extent highly creditable to the province, still the establishment of a police, in a town so thickly populated, appears to be just and necessary.

The question is at this moment before the Executive Council; and though there may be differences of opinion as to the area to be included ultimately in the police limits, I think that the experiment should be tried at first upon the scale proposed by the government agent. I have doubts, I confess, as to the prudence of not including what is called the native town in the police limits; but the peculiarities of Jaffna are such, and it is so difficult to fix the line where the town merges into a purely agricultural population, that I cannot pretend to set a mere impression on my part against Mr. Dyke's experience; and I am, consequently, prepared to adopt the scheme recommended by him in the proclamation, which I hope will be agreed to at the next meeting of the Council.

##### *Rice Grounds of the Koratchy District.*

This district, which is in fact the granary of the peninsula, contains 8,500 acres of paddy-land, 7,200 of which are irrigated by the Vilandi river. It is the nearest point at which the surplus population of Jaffna can be brought into contact with a sufficiency of land and water, to ensure a fair return for its labour. The ground is cultivated by families from the neighbourhood of Chavagacherry and Jaffna, and may be regarded

\* See Appendix D., page 304.

as private property (though the title is in the Crown), held on the condition of cultivation. The owners or tenants visit the Karatchy twice a year, at sowing and crop-time, and are subjected to certain regulations as regards watching, fencing, and other common duties, which appear to work admirably, for nothing could be finer than the appearance of the crops, which I had the advantage of seeing during the harvest, or more orderly than the conduct of the people.

The sole limit to this system appears to be the possibility of extending the supply of water, and rendering it less dependent upon the seasons. If the supply could be made certain, the present revenue (500*l.* a year) might be doubled, for all would contribute, according to their means, to secure so great a blessing.

If the supply were increased, 5,000 acres more might be brought into cultivation, with an increase of 1,100*l.* a year in the revenue after the first four years, during which the ground would be cleared and assimilated by the new tenants. I have gone carefully into these calculations, and see no reason to question their accuracy; nor do I doubt that there would be abundant competition for the land, if the supply of water could be secured.

Under these circumstances, Mr. Dyke has called my attention to the plan of building store-tanks, to retain the surplus waters during the rainy season, which has been so successfully pursued in India by Colonel Cotton. The cost of a tank, with an earthen band of two miles, faced with stone, in a flat country, presenting few natural facilities for its construction, is stated by Colonel Cotton to be 12,000*l.*

One such tank would suffice for 5,000 acres. The distance from the land to be irrigated is immaterial, provided proper levels for the conveyance of the water can be obtained; and the cost of a stone duct or channel five miles in length, is included in the 12,000*l.*

In a country so full of inequalities as that through which the Vilandi river flows, it is probable that natural facilities might be found that would materially diminish the cost of constructing a tank of this description. The question cannot be decided without an accurate survey by an officer in whose science and judgment the Government can place confidence. I have simply adverted to it as a matter well worthy of consideration; but I have promised Mr. Dyke that if any circumstance were to require the presence of the surveyor-general in the north, the Government would request him to undertake this duty; and I have great hopes that he might do so with the prospect of a satisfactory result.

#### *Survey Department.*

The question of surveys has met me everywhere, and always as a source of difficulty, and a bar to improvement in every arrangement connected with land.

Nothing can be more natural than that scientific men should wish to secure all possible accuracy in the discharge of a most important duty. But it will take 100 years with our present means, or any such enlargement of them as can reasonably be contemplated, to complete a survey of Ceylon upon a trigonometrical basis; and in the meantime, what is to become of the interests of the present generation? Are there to be no land sales? No transfers? No title deeds? No possibility of acquiring a legal right to a small holding, which is just as essential to native industry as the survey of the larger blocks is to the investment of planting capital? I have reason to believe that the quantity of land that might now be sold in five acre or ten acre pieces, at a remunerating price, is very considerable; and I see no reason to doubt that the facility of acquiring property in this way would have just as beneficial an effect upon the habits and character of the Singhalese as the practice of squatting has the reverse.

I regard it, therefore, as indispensable that some means should be found of putting up for sale small allotments of land, in every district where the government agents report that there is a demand for such allotments, and that there would be competition for them if brought into the market.

The very large amount received for native coffee, and not invested in any known or ostensible way, explains the increasing desire for land. The mode of meeting it must be left to the surveyor-general. But I am happy to say, that upon communication with him I find that he sees nothing impracticable in the idea of combining a ruder kind of survey sufficiently accurate to enable the Government to sell (the land brought into the market being distinguished by well defined boundaries specified in the deed of sale, and which it would be the duty of the purchaser to keep up), with that more perfect survey which must always be borne in view as the object at which the department must aim.

Captain Gosset thinks that there would be no difficulty in including these blocks of small holdings in the general survey when made up, the Government reserving to itself the right of claiming payment in money for any excess of land included in the allotment, and of indemnifying the purchaser (also in money, not in land,) for any deficiency in the amount supposed to have been purchased.

The differences on either side will probably be very small when brought to actual measurement, while by putting a money value upon them there will be no disputes between the owners of neighbouring allotments, and the whole may be brought into the general survey without disputes or inconvenience.

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I think this is an admirable idea, and I am much indebted to Captain Gosset for the suggestion. Nothing will facilitate so much the sale of land, with a frontage to minor roads (which is now generally occupied by squatters), or check so effectually the occupation of chenas, which it is difficult to resist when land is not to be obtained on reasonable terms in good situations.

*Payment of Vidahns.—Salaries of Magistrates at Out-stations—  
Postal Communication.*

There are other points to which I am anxious to call attention; the payment of the vidahns, the very inadequate provision made for magistrates doing duty at some of the smaller stations upon acting appointments, and the postal communications between Colombo and Jaffna.

With regard to the first\*, I concur entirely in Mr. Dyke's opinion, that the duties of these officers are of a nature that no one can expect to see performed without remuneration, and that if not paid by the Government they will abuse their powers in order to extort pay from the people.

In a report dated 9th August 1844, Mr. Dyke proposed to impose a small house tax in each district, for the payment of the vidahn, and he feels confident that the arrangement would give general satisfaction, the Tamils, as a people, being perfectly cognizant of their rights, and certain to resist exactions on the part of the Vidahns, if attempted, when once a Government payment is established. Mr. Dyke's report, printed with the Finance Report of 1849, shows that the amount of the tax would be very trifling.

With regard to magistrates holding acting appointments in small stations (Chavagacherry, Calpentya, Mullativu, &c.), the pay of which is only 300*l.*, and drawing consequently 150*l.* a year for the performance of very important duties, their position is deplorable in every respect, and most discreditably to the Government.

How can a man, reduced to accept such an appointment, and bringing to it the habits and feelings of a gentleman, maintain his position, or command the respect of the natives?

He can hardly keep a servant out of his pay, still less a horse. He must live upon the barest necessities; and the knowledge and sight of these habitual privations destroy his influence in the district over which he presides, if they do not, at last, impair the belief in his integrity.

I think it bad economy as well as bad policy to expose gentlemen by education and birth to this ordeal; and I feel confident that the Secretary of State, when the matter is brought before him, would sanction a minimum of 300*l.* for all cases of this description if the Legislative Council were to concur in the view which I take of its propriety.

Such an arrangement will cost the public little, while it confers a great boon upon the individual.

It simply extends the principle which Sir John Pakington has laid down in the case of writers; and certainly in dealing with two classes of public servants, it is at least as necessary to uphold the dignity of a judge as that of a young man recently arrived in the colony, and qualifying himself for his future career.

I come lastly to the state of the postal communications with the northern province; and I cannot too strongly express my conviction, in which the government agent concurs, that it would be expedient to confine them entirely to the central road, and to give up the coast line altogether.

The difficulties of keeping up a line of tappals between Putlam and Mannar are immense. During the rainy season the rivers on the coast are impassable. During the dry season, the men suffer severely from heat and drought. The commercial correspondence between the two places, as between Mannar and Jaffna, is so inconsiderable as to be wholly unworthy of consideration, and letters would be conveyed with infinitely greater ease and regularity, though something might be lost in point of time, if the whole correspondence of the northern province were sent *vid* Dambool, with a branch from Madawatcho to Mannar, instead of the present line from Anaradhapoora, which passes through a desert, without a village or an inhabitant, for 60 miles.

The Anaradhapoora line would thus be done away with; the coast line would be done away with, north of Putlam; and the saving so made might be employed in improving the communications upon the central road, which is already the line followed by the cooly immigration, and is provided with cooly sheds and a cooly police, all of which might be made available for the postal service, if this route were adopted.

Should the Council concur in my views upon this point, Mr. Dyke might be called upon to prepare a plan for carrying them out early next year, when the present contracts have expired; and if this decision were accompanied by an improvement in the Trincomalee road, between Matelle, Nakande, and Dambool, a matter which I think well worthy of the attention of the Legislative Council when considering the estimates for 1857, I am satisfied that a very great change for the better in the internal communication of the island might be effected at a comparatively small expense.

Pavilion, Kandy, April 5th, 1856.

H. G. WARD.

\* See Appendix E, page 304.



## APPENDIX.

## A.

To his Excellency Sir HENRY GEORGE WARD, Knight Grand Cross of the most distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Island of Ceylon, with the dependencies thereof,

The humble petition of the undersigned shipowners and merchants of Point Pedro.

May it please your Excellency,

Your Excellency's petitioners, with due respect, beg leave to state that trade between this port and the ports on the continent of India is carried on only during eight months in the year. The revenue collected during that period amounts to upwards of 4,000*l.*, and the expenditure attending the customs establishment of this port does not exceed above 280*l.* annually; and although such an amount of revenue is collected at this port, the petitioners suffer a great deal in consequence of the inconvenience of the creek, situated on the eastern side of the custom house, where their vessels are taken for shelter. The place is now about four feet in depth, which, if deepened about four feet more, up to the place where vessels are usually sheltered, and the passage to it be also widened, it would with facility enable the petitioners in stormy weather to take in their vessels with cargo on board, and secure them from being endangered.

The petitioners further beg leave to state, that in consequence of the alleged inconvenience several vessels with cargo of grain and other goods anchored at this port were foundered and damaged in the storms which occurred several times in 1853, by which the petitioners and the revenue suffered greatly. Should the improvement above alluded to by the petitioners be completed, the petitioners will be able to carry on trade throughout the year, whereby the revenues will be greatly increased, and the petitioners also profited. The petitioners conceive that the expenses in completing the work will not be great.

Under the foregoing circumstances, the petitioners earnestly crave that your Excellency will be pleased to take this matter into consideration, and grant their request.

For which act of goodness, the petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Point Pedro, March 15, 1856.

[Here follow 107 signatures.]

## B.

To his Excellency Sir HENRY GEORGE WARD, Knight Grand Cross of the most distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, the Governor Commander-in-Chief in and over the Island of Ceylon and its dependencies,

The humble petition of Cathiracer Mootyer and others, the undersigned inhabitants of Valvettitotte and Valvetty.

May it please your Excellency,

That the petitioners most humbly beg to forward this petition to your Excellency under the deep conviction that your Excellency is kindly disposed to listen to the grievances of the community, and promote their interests.

The villages of which they are the residents are an extensive field, as regards merchandise; and Valvettitotte is possessed of fifty vessels (seven square rigged vessels, and thirty-nine dhonies, &c.), and in this respect it exceeds Point Pedro, which is possessed of only less than twenty-five vessels (all dhonies, and not a single brig).

Now the petitioners would respectfully call your Excellency's attention to the fact that as they are obliged to land their cargoes at the port of Point Pedro, which is nearly at five miles distance, and as they run into considerable expenses on removing the goods, &c., they suffer considerable loss at the rate of per parah per funam, and consequently they are obliged to sell their goods at Valvettitotte at a higher rate.

And your Excellency may easily know that in most cases, after landing and settlement of custom duties at Point Pedro, they are obliged to re-load their vessels with their goods, and take them to Valvettitotte, and in consequence of this they not only suffer a considerable loss, but also feel delayed in sailing, their vessels being detained in their removal.

Your Excellency may further know the relative advantage, on comparing the amount of cost per year and the speedy despatch of post to and from the coast, since the post establishment at Valvettitotte, with what it has been while it was at Point Pedro.

Under these circumstances, the petitioners most respectfully pray your Excellency would take this circumstance into kind consideration, and direct that they may be allowed to land their cargo at Valvettitotte instead of at Point Pedro, or at least to land them at Valvettitotte paying the duty at Point Pedro as usual.

For which act of goodness, the petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

March 14, 1856.

[Here follow 130 signatures.]

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MEMORANDUM of the number of square-rigged vessels and dhoneys belonging to Point Pedro and Valvettitorre, and their tonnage.

	Square-rigged Vessels.		Dhoneys.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Point Pedro - - - - -	—	—	25	1,141
Valvettitorre - - - - -	9	481	32	1,814
Total - - - - -	9	481	57	2,955

## C.

*Memoranda on the Jaffna Public Hospital, submitted to his Excellency the Governor.*

The attention of his Excellency is respectfully invited to the following statements, which contain in a summary form some account of the past history of this institution, of the partial accomplishment of its objects, of its present position, and proposals for the final completion of the original plan.

The case of this society presents the following features:—

1. The earnestness and spirit with which the local public took up the matter from the first, and the very large amount of the donations made towards this object. This was an effort in which all classes cordially shared, their contributions in money and land amounting to 1,287*l*.

2. It is unnecessary to remark upon the desirableness of encouraging all efforts of this nature. Every indication of energy and self-reliance that appears amongst the native population demands the fostering care of all who are interested in their elevation. Nobly have the people helped themselves, and I may confidently anticipate, for all concerned, his Excellency's commendation.

3. Government have always expressed a lively interest in this institution, and a willingness to contribute towards the completion of its permanent buildings. In October 1852 the hospital committee urgently requested Government to aid the "provision for permanent accommodation and current operations in proportion equal to the contributions that have already been and may yet be made by the people of the place." The existing annual grant towards the upkeep of the institution is equal to the amount of private donations, and indeed Government have never made any objection to the principle which the committee desire should regulate the amount of the grants from the public revenues, but have recognized it in many instances where useful works have been undertaken by the inhabitants, and have invariably expressed "regret that the state of the public finances did not admit of a grant being made in aid of the construction of the permanent buildings." It is earnestly hoped that his Excellency will set this matter at rest, by distinctly recognizing the principle of contribution above referred to.

4. The recognition of this principle by his Excellency as applying to the fund for permanent buildings, as well as that for current operations, would have an immediate effect in enabling the committee to raise the additional sum of private donations required for the completion of their plans; and in fact they would feel no difficulty in pleading themselves for the full performance of such conditions.

5. It should be stated, that in all the arrangements the committee have evinced the most liberal and confiding spirit; for all the property, both land and buildings, is vested in Government, with power of "direction and control." The government agent and police magistrate are ex-officio members of the committee, an arrangement that affords to Government every security that the trust shall not be abused, as the deeds prevent the property from being ever alienated.

6. Another feature of the institution is its relation to the whole province. The in-door and out-door patients, who amounted to nearly 6,000 last year, come out from the town of Jaffna and its vicinity chiefly, but from every parish of the peninsula, with its population of more than 200,000 souls.

7. The committee have completed three permanent buildings; a male ward, a dispensary and a dispenser's house. A permanent female ward, permanent out-houses, and residences for the servants employed in the institution, are still required. The first-named building is urgently wanted. The committee have endeavoured to supply this want to some extent by the erection of temporary buildings. Two such structures were blown down during a recent gale, putting the society to considerable expense, and endangering the lives of the patients.

8. The progressive usefulness of the hospital is marked and encouraging. A few statistics are subjoined.

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	In-door patients.	Out-door patients.	Total.
1852	- - 179	- - 5,808	- - 3,987
1853	- - 252	- - 4,287	- - 4,539
1854	- - 310	- - 5,785	- - 6,095
1855	- - 345	- - 5,500	- - 5,845

9. The attention of his Excellency is particularly invited to the fact, that a large number of serious cases is annually sent to the hospital by the police courts an arrangement by which the fees usually paid to medical men on such occasions are saved to the public. Of such cases there were in

1852	- - - 68
1853	- - - 49
1854	- - - 108
1855	- - - 99

10. The utmost publicity is given to all the proceedings of the society. The accounts, and an abstract of hospital cases, are published once a quarter in a local newspaper. A complete set of books is kept by the society, from which all statements and statistics are carefully extracted. The institution enjoys public confidence.

11. The arrangements made for the medical treatment of the sick are of a very satisfactory character. An annual supply of medicines is procured direct from Apothecaries Hall, and the whole of the dispensing and hospital establishments are placed under the immediate supervision of the medical officer of the station, assisted by a native young man, who was educated for the medical profession by a physician attached to the American mission.

12. His Excellency will be pleased to observe, that a large proportion of the finances of the committee has been absorbed in the purchase of land for a suitable site. On most other stations, Government would have been able to sanction the occupation of Crown lands, and would have supplemented that grant by a pecuniary donation from the public funds.

The permanent buildings already erected, are

A male ward	cost	- - -	- £500
Dispensary	do.	- - -	- 260
Dispenser's house	do.	- - -	- 120

The permanent buildings required, are

A range of rooms for those who will pay rent		- - -	- 100
A female ward.	estimated cost	- - -	- 500
Outhouses	do.	- - -	- 60
Residences for servants	do.	- - -	- 40
Operation-room	do.	- - -	- 60

The amount of private donations is

In money	- - -	- £860
In land	- - -	- 427

£1287

Government grant of land	- - -	- 400
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Amount of grant to be paid by Government, to make its donations equal to the total of private contributions - - - £887

JOHN WALTON,

Secretary F. N. Society.

Jaffna, March 14, 1856.

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D.

STATEMENT of the Number of Cases and Number of Persons tried before the Supreme Court, in each of the three periods of twelve years ending respectively in 1831, 1843, and 1855, for some of the principal Crimes against Property and Person.

	Cases tried in the Twelve Years ending,			Persons tried in the Twelve Years ending,			
	1831.	1843.	1855.	1831.	1843.	1855.	
Robbery and murder	1	—	—	9	—	—	No case since 1848.
"    and rape	4	—	—	8	—	—	
"    with ear-cutting	36	20	5	193	77	22	
"    with other violence	76	49	16	300	207	112	The hearing of this will be seen by the note below. Executed in the first period, two in one case; the second, nine in three ditto; the third, three, in three ditto.
Burglary and robbery	69	89	58	219	224	225	
Murder	22	12	31	32	24	74	
Manslaughter and homicide	9	11	9	9	19	12	So probably those without violence, will not decrease in number till those with violence have nearly ceased.
Assaults with wounding, and other violent assaults	44	44	13	125	98	40	
	261	225	132	895	649	485	
* All cases of robbery	186	158	79	729	508	359	

E.

To his Excellency the Governor, &c. &c. &c.

The humble Petition of the under-mentioned Police Vidahns of Jaffna.

May it please your Excellency,

That the petitioners most humbly beg leave to state to your Excellency that they are police vidahns, and manage their duties without any remuneration for the trouble they take, and as headmen they have to do more than any other officers, viz., that they, for the most part, serve all kinds of processes issued from the court, as well as from the fiscal's office, and are often obliged to produce the parties so served; and they have to look to the internal order of the places over which they hold the office; to check all disorders; to be prepared, day and night, to go to the place where any disturbance is to take place; to keep the place clean, freed from all filth and dirt; to make reports of all deaths and accidents; to make annually a return of births and deaths, and of all kinds of animals in charge of each inhabitant, separately; to grant certificates for the sale of all cattle and other animals, to which latter only they are authorized to take a small fee, which is nothing compared with the trouble which they are obliged to undertake; whereas the other headmen, namely odears and maningars, who, although they have very little to do, are in the receipt of payment, commission upon all the sales of rent and taxes, and fees for granting schedules and registering marriages.

The petitioners further beg to state, that they are, every day throughout the year, obliged to attend the court, and wait till the evening to hear the orders of the magistrate, touching the cases of their respective villages; and if they should happen to take any income from the people, or the parties of different cases, there will be great injustice towards them. There was some remuneration formerly allowed when the patrol watch was established, but now such watch is discontinued.

Therefore petitioners humbly pray that your Excellency will be graciously pleased to take their petitions into merciful consideration, and order for a monthly salary to them.

For which act of goodness, petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

Jaffna, March 15, 1856.

[Here follow 39 signatures.]

Enclosure 5 in No. 35.

Encl. 5 in No. 35.

#### MINUTE ON THE NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE.

In conformity with the practice which I have hitherto adopted after my various tours of inspection, I wish to submit to the Executive Council some observations upon the north-western province, and upon the various interests connected with it.

In the first place, it is my pleasing duty to record my entire satisfaction with the manner in which the works upon the Nataroo canal have been executed. The navigation between Colombo and Putlam is now open, and I had the pleasure of seeing a long string of boats, deeply laden with salt and copperuh, passing through a part of the canal which in September 1855 was completely closed by a mass of black mud, varying from four to six feet depth, and covered with coarse grass and rushes. This mud-bank, extending for nearly a mile and half, was the result of long neglect; but, as I anticipated, it required nothing but money and labour to restore the level of the canal, by giving free passage to the water above and below the obstruction. The work presented "no engineering difficulties, worthy of the name,"—it required "neither locks nor retaining walls." The banks "have been strengthened by piles, where the soil was loose;" and "drainage pits" have been constructed to prevent the sand and mud of the adjoining paddy-fields from being carried, bodily, into the canal during the inundations. All that now remains to be done, in order to maintain this valuable navigation, is to bear in mind what I also ventured to suggest in the minute to which I have here referred, namely, that "success in this, or any other system that can be adopted, depends upon a constant and "vigilant superintendence," and upon powers being vested in some competent person "to remedy small defects upon his own responsibility, without waiting for estimates and references, during which the evil may increase a hundred fold."

I cannot too strongly insist upon this point, for I consider it to be a vital one. Every canal-trust in England has its local manager constantly upon the spot, and ready to deal at once with accidental damages from floods or other causes; yet in Ceylon, where the accidents are infinitely graver, from the violence and suddenness of the atmospheric changes, and where the work of years may be destroyed in a night, unless the most vigorous measures be resorted to, there is no provision for such emergencies. Even the daily injuries arising from cattle trespass are regarded with indifference, although a moderate amount of precaution might put a stop to them; and while the money required for the execution of a large work is not grudged, there is a rooted indisposition to incur the small annual expenditure indispensable for its preservation.

In the present case, I trust that the Councils will concur with me in thinking that eighty-six miles of inland navigation, every stoppage in which affects materially the supply of salt to Colombo, and consequently to all those parts of the western and central provinces which are dependent upon the Colombo market, ought not again to be jeopardized by the refusal to appropriate an amount at least equivalent to the tolls to those timely repairs without which no canal was ever yet kept open. From the table published with the report of the sub-committee of the Legislative Council in 1855, it appears, that in the year 1848 the sum expended upon the Putlam and Negombo canals was "£. s. d.",—that in 1849 it was 35*l.*,—in 1850, 127*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.*; and then came the natural consequences, a heavy outlay of 1,929*l.*, which proved wholly incommensurate with the injury done, and a series of inadequate votes and disappointed expectations. The fact being that nobody liked to look the evil fairly in the face, and that the obstructions, which had been allowed to accumulate in three years of most ill-judged economy, continued to increase in a ratio infinitely greater than the work that could be done with the money voted for their removal.

I have directed an estimate to be prepared of the traffic that may reasonably be expected upon the canal, when the confidence of boat-owners is restored by the assurance that it will be kept in navigable order; and it will be for the Council to consider, in the session of 1857 what amount of toll should be imposed upon the boats using this line of communication.

It is probable, also, that some legislative enactment will be required for the more effectual suppression of cattle trespass. For, however necessary buffaloes may be to the natives in their agricultural pursuits, (and in the Putlam district they are largely used for carts, as well as ploughing,) the owners of these animals must be taught that they are not to be allowed to roam over the country at pleasure, destroying public works, upon the maintenance of which the prosperity of the province depends, since the canal affords by far the cheapest access to the largest market.

I have authorized the commissioner of public works to incur any necessary expense, during the next few months, for the prevention of this evil; and the headmen of the villages adjoining the canal have been warned that as accommodation bridges have been provided by the liberality of the public at every point where they were stated to be required for agricultural purposes, there is no excuse whatsoever for indulgence in a matter which is of the greatest consequence, since no cure can prevent the banks of the canal from being broken down, or its channel from being choked up by earth trampled into solid mud the moment it reaches the bottom, if herds of buffaloes are allowed to make crossing-places wherever they choose, and to pass whole days and nights in the water.

At present the appearance of the canal is most gratifying. A perfect current of water is established between the northern lakes and the Maha Oya; the banks in many places have been turfed and levelled; the drainage pits are working satisfactorily. The

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vote for 1857 will provide amply for any demands that can now be foreseen, and the work done up to December 1856 has not exceeded the estimate. The Council, therefore, will have the satisfaction of feeling that for 3,000*l.* the line of navigation between Colombo and Putlam has been restored; and as Colombo again is united by another line of water communication with Calcutta, from whence the Kelloogunga conveys goods into the heart of Saffragama, the distance from point to point cannot be less than 163 miles of continuous canal traffic; an advantage which it is difficult to overrate in an island where the coasting trade is always impeded by the monsoons, and often suspended for many months together.

Mr. Campbell's exertions in this laborious undertaking entitle him to the highest praise; the spirit and discipline which he introduced amongst his men were admirable. I have had great pleasure in conferring the rank of mohandiram of the northern inland navigation upon Korokoelaseria David Fernando, his very able native assistant; and I hope that in the revision of the fixed establishments next session means may be found to show that the Government appreciates Mr. Campbell's labours, by intrusting him with the special charge of works which he has been mainly instrumental in creating. The retaining-walls built by this gentleman upon the line of the Hamilton canal, as well as between Negombo and the Maha Oya, appear to have been eminently successful; and I should recommend their gradual extension wherever the soil is loose and sandy, if stone can be found within a reasonable distance.

## DOOWE ISLAND.

While at Negombo I visited the island of Doowe, the existence of which was menaced, twelve months ago, by the inroads of the sea, and the gradual disappearance of the sand-bank upon which the village is situated. The inhabitants are all fishermen, and amongst the most industrious and enterprising of their class. The island, which is densely populated, is peculiarly suited for this pursuit, as the canoes can be drawn up on the beach, and launched, in either monsoon, changing from one side to the other, as is required. The houses are clean and well built. The church is a large and solid structure. The whole population is catholic, and placed under the charge of two missionaries, one of whom must be a man of considerable ability, for it is to his perseverance and energy, in carrying out a suggestion of the surveyor-general, Captain Gosset, that the island is indebted for its preservation from the dangers with which it was menaced.

When I saw it in August last the sea was within six yards of the church; it is now not within sixty yards, and this is due entirely to the erection of a number of angular heaps of stone, with the edge of the wedge facing the sea, each of which became the nucleus of a new formation of sand, so that, instead of the sea gaining upon the land, the land has been gaining upon the sea; and it is now clear that the island may be preserved in its integrity, provided the process be more extensively adopted.

As I think this an object well worthy of public aid, and as the stone required for the work must be quarried and brought from a considerable distance on the main land, I have promised the missionaries a grant in aid of 100*l.* they undertaking to find the whole of the labour, and to be accountable for the application of the money to a government engineer.

I propose that the 100*l.* should be advanced in two instalments of 50*l.* each, through the government agent and the police magistrate at Negombo, Mr. Jumeaux; and that Mr. Campbell should report upon the progress of the work before the second instalment is paid.

## MADAMPE DAM AND IRRIGATION WORKS.

The restoration of the tank at Madampe, connected as it is with the irrigation of 600 acres of paddy land now producing only one crop in the year, and the probable sale of 500 acres of Crown jungle in lots of five and ten acres at a highly remunerative price, provided a supply of water be ensured, was the first object that engaged my attention after leaving Natande. The whole population of the country appears to take a lively interest in this scheme, and the ground about the village presents great natural facilities for carrying it out, the cocoanut topes, amongst which the houses stand, forming three sides of the tank, so that an embankment is required only on the fourth side, where the remains of a dam are still to be seen. A simple mound of earth five or six feet in height will be sufficient, I am assured, to prevent the escape of the water. The cost of this, together with the spill water and sluices proposed by Mr. Royston, who has made a survey of the ground by my directions, will not exceed 1,200*l.*, of which the district would contribute one third in money or labour, providing at the same time for the maintenance of the dam by bringing itself under the Irrigation Act. The sale of the Crown land, at the prices which I am taught to expect (from 3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.* per acre), would more than cover the whole expenditure; in addition to which the Government would gain the tenth upon the second crop of paddy that would be produced by the land already under cultivation, if the supply of water were increased by raising the water in the tank to its original level. In short, I hardly know a more promising undertaking, provided the scheme present no unforeseen engineering difficulties.

In order to guard against these, I have submitted Mr. Royston's survey to the surveyor-general, who has put upon paper the points that appear to him still to require elucidation; and it is only when all scientific doubts are removed that the government agent will proceed to the spot, and endeavour to come to some formal understanding with the inhabitants as to the terms of the agreement to be concluded.

## CHILAW.

*Bridge. Courthouse. Gaol. Tank Repairs.*

When I was at Chilaw in August last, I received various petitions for the abatement of a grievance to which the inhabitants of the whole district are subjected, by the situation of the courthouse, which is built upon an island, and only accessible by a ferry, so that every person attending the court is taxed going and returning, both in his own person and in that of his witnesses.

It was at first supposed that a timber bridge might be built for 700*l.*, which would remove the difficulty; but the pin-worm abounds in the river, and the piles would require perpetual renewing. An iron bridge would cost 2,500*l.*, the span being 400 feet; while the court-house could be removed, and rebuilt in the fort, for 200*l.*, using the old materials.

I think that this course should be adopted. The inconvenience to the district judge will be infinitely less than the inconvenience now inflicted upon the suitors. The distance is short, and a courthouse should certainly be placed wherever it is likely to accommodate the greatest number. I have accordingly authorized Major Skinner to proceed with the work, charging the amount, 200*l.*, to the supply vote for 1857. I have likewise desired an estimate to be prepared for repairing the judge's bungalow upon the island, and for enclosing it with a fence strong enough to keep off the cattle, which now browse in the verandah, and utterly destroy the property. The house is well situated. It may be put and kept in repair at a very trifling cost; but as a rest-house it is useless, on account of its distance from the bazaar, and the want of stabling. I propose, therefore, to repair the old rest-house in the fort, for the accommodation of ordinary travellers. The gaol will also require a thorough repair, but that must await the report of the gaol commission appointed last session.

*Tanks.*

I am indebted to a confidential report left with me by Mr. Mooyart on his departure from Putlam, for a very interesting sketch of the state of the tanks about Chilaw, and the practicability of improving them. In this the Government is doubly interested, being a large proprietor of tank and of paddy land, as well as deriving a benefit from every increase in the general cultivation. But Mr. Mooyart not being an engineer, it is impossible to say what value may attach to his suggestions until they have been tested by some competent officer. The system recommended by him, probably upon the suggestion of the natives, is large and complicated. Upon one point, the carrying a dam of 400 feet across the Dedra Oya, it is obviously impracticable. In other respects there seems to be no insuperable obstacle; and it was my wish to have had a report upon the subject from Mr. Smith, who formerly served in the Department of Public Works; but that gentleman having asked 1,000*l.* for the survey, I have declined to avail myself of his assistance, and we must now wait for an opportunity to place the matter in other hands, as soon as the public service will admit of it.

*Road between Chilaw and Putlam.*

The bridges upon this road are generally in a very bad state, especially those in the vicinity of Chilaw, where an embankment is carried across a swampy piece of ground for nearly three miles. Parts of this are all but impassable. Fortunately, the timber used being palloo, the wood is perfectly sound, and only requires re-fastening with a few additional planks where wanted.

Major Skinner, who accompanied me, has given the necessary orders for this, as also for clearing away the jungle, which is encroaching rapidly upon the road; and an active and intelligent officer being now in charge of the district, improvements may be looked for without the necessity of any extraordinary expenditure.

## PUTLAM.

The repair of the cutcherry is indispensable. It is impossible to conceive a building in a more discreditable state or more unfit for any public purpose; and if another rainy season be allowed to begin before the roof is put into proper order, the damage already done will be doubled.

The rest-house, too, is fast going to ruin. The house of the assistant agent requires some repairs, but not of a serious character; and the fence of the compound in which all these buildings are situated must be renewed, and provided with gates, in order to keep out the cattle, which now swarm about the place, where they find both food and shelter. I am aware that government agents are often induced, by the fear of being thought extravagant, to refrain from asking for necessary repairs until the evil becomes intolerable.

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But delay in many cases is an absolute wrong to the public; it doubles and triples the ultimate outlay; and wherever the Government has an officer in charge of public works he should be directed to make a yearly survey of the buildings at his station, and to report such repairs as he deems to be indispensable. If the necessity for these arose from want of proper care on the part of the occupant for the time being, this also might be reported. But in the interest of the public there must be a power somewhere to do small things as soon as they are wanted (mending a roof, or a fence or a door, &c.), for I have seen more harm done by the want of this than by any other single cause that I can point to.

I may add, that the state of the cutcherry furniture at Putlam is most disgraceful, the floors of some of the rooms being strewed with papers properly belonging to the archives, there being no presses or closets of any kind to hold them. Upon this point also means must be found to secure periodical reports from some impartial authority; and the best mode of doing this would probably be to require the Commissioner of Public Works when he visits an out-station to send in a written report of the public furniture, and to state what is wanting for the purpose of carrying on the general business.

#### *Salt Revenue.*

But the one great question at Putlam is the salt revenue, upon which I have recorded my views in a separate minute. Judging by outward appearances, I should say that there never yet was a Government monopoly so loosely administered; that the most obvious precautions for the security of the property are wanting; and that, without a superhuman amount of honesty in all connected with the works, which no Government has a right to expect, still less to rely upon as the basis of a financial operation, it is morally certain that the population must be taxed to an amount wholly incommensurate with the income derived from this branch of the revenue, the monopoly price of salt being maintained for the benefit of the contraband trader.

This to my mind is the worst result possible. It injures the revenue. It demoralizes the people. The Government should either make the monopoly a reality, or give it up altogether. If the price of one of the first necessities of life is to be raised by law to sixteen times its intrinsic value, we should at least take care that the sacrifice produce its full fruit in available revenue, the benefits of which may be brought home to all by public works and useful institutions. I have, therefore, thought it advisable to appoint a commission, consisting of the acting auditor general, Mr. Lee, and Mr. P. W. Braybrooke, the first assistant to the colonial secretary, with powers to investigate the whole system, pointing out its defects, and suggesting the necessary remedies.

I do not intend to limit this inquiry to Putlam. It must extend ultimately to Hambantotte and the eastern provinces, where we have had recent proofs of its necessity, the son of the storekeeper at Nilavelle having petitioned to be allowed to pay for 2,183 bushels of salt, which are found to be deficient in his father's accounts, at the cost price of the salt, not at the selling price, while the government agent very properly reports, that as there is ground for "supposing" that the deficiency discovered is only part of a much more extensive system of plunder, he sees no reason why this request should be complied with.

To me it seems that there should be no "supposition" in the matter; that things of this sort should be matters of account, not of conjecture; that the Government should have the means at any time of verifying the stock of salt upon hand, and of testing the real loss by wastage, which is now made to cover everything; that it never can do this until it adopt the recommendation of the Board of Audit in England, by causing its salt stores to be divided into compartments, and taking proper measures for their safe keeping; and that, whatever be the expense attending this change, it will be more than repaid by the increased productiveness of the revenue, which in this case will not be accompanied by increased pressure upon the people.

But I feel confident that the gentlemen to whom this inquiry is intrusted will spare no pains to bring it to an useful and practical conclusion; and I shall be much mistaken if the colony do not derive considerable pecuniary advantages from their labours.

#### *NATCHIKALLE.*

Although the produce of salt at Natchikalle is much smaller than that of Putlam, and the precautions taken for its safe keeping greater, the stores being all provided with doors that will lock, and the sides, though made of cajun, being in good repair, the station nevertheless presents some peculiarities which I could hardly have credited without having seen them personally.

The first duty of a Government which becomes the sole proprietor and vendor of salt in an island containing one million and a half of people is to take care that the monopoly price be not enhanced by unnecessary difficulties in conveying the article to market. The whole of the salt made in the Natchikally salt pans goes to Colombo. The salt pans are situated nearly in the centre of a long narrow peninsula, ending in the headland of Calpentyn, and bounded by the Putlam lake on the one side and by the sea on the other. During the N.E. monsoon which corresponds with the season when the manufacture of salt for the year is completed, vessels may not only approach the beach



at Natchikalle with safety, but lie there within 40 yards of the shore, under the protection of the reef, which forms a natural anchorage. Yet, in lieu of availing themselves of these advantages, the dhonies from Colombo are forced to go round the headland of Calpentyn, in the very teeth of the N.E. monsoon, into the lake of Putlam, and there to anchor off the canal which leads from the lake to Natchikalle, precisely opposite the point upon the seaboard at which they ought to take in their cargoes; and they spend upon an average 1½ days in performing this most unnecessary and difficult voyage.

The matter was brought to the notice of Government 1½ years ago, by Mr. Forbes, when government agent at Putlam, and authority was given to open a road between Natchikalle and the sea shore, which was made at a cost of £851 by Mr. Brodie. The distance is not above three quarters of a mile; but as the surrounding country is all sand, the materials had to be procured by blasting coral reefs upon the coast, which accounts for the heavy expenditure.

Unfortunately, Mr. Brodie either exceeded his estimate, or had not included in it the cost of a small bridge over the canal which separates the road from the salt stores, and the work, having been brought to within 30 yards of the principal store, has remained useless ever since, from the want of a bridge to connect them.

I am informed that the cost of this bridge will not exceed 50*l*. I have walked over Mr. Brodie's road with the commissioner of public works and the acting assistant agent at Putlam, Mr. Russel. We consider that although covered in many places with sand, the original construction was so good that it may be rendered perfectly available for bullocks by an outlay of 50*l*. or 60*l*.; and I have consequently authorized Major Skinner to expend at once 120*l*. in re-opening and completing this line of communication, thus giving to the public the benefit of the £851 spent in 1843, and from which it has not yet derived the slightest advantage.

The master attendant of Colombo should be requested to supply a barge to be placed at the southern extremity of the reef which runs off Natchikalle; and the dhonies engaged in the salt trade with that place may then be informed that they are at liberty to load upon the beach, and that arrangements will be made for delivering the salt there, instead of upon the Putlam side, as at present.

#### ROAD TO KURNEGALLE.

The water communication with Colombo being amply provided for by the restoration of the Natanio canal, and the opening of a handy road between the salt depot and the sea at Natchikalle, it only remains for me to remark upon the state of the road between Putlam and Kurnegalle, this being the principal channel by which salt and salt fish, two main articles in the domestic economy of the natives, are conveyed into the seven corals, and the central province.

The Kurnegalle road was one of those great lines of communication the importance of which in a commercial as well as in a military point of view was seen by Sir Edward Barnes at a very early period. The road was opened by him in 1821, and it has been left ever since unmetalled, unbridged, and most imperfectly repaired by a very scanty application of ordinance labour.

Yet the traffic upon it is considerable, and would increase rapidly, if the road were made passable at all seasons. 10,000 bundles a year, or from 800 to 900 a month, ply between Putlam and Kurnegalle; and a toll upon these of 4*s*. when full, and 2*s*. when empty, would produce 3,000*l*. a year, which would be amply sufficient to cover the annual repairs if the road were put into good order. At present there are no tolls; and although from the favourable nature of the soil, which for 40 miles out of the 54 is composed of rock or gravel, carts can pass over a great part of the line without much difficulty, there are other parts, in the neighbourhood of Putlam and Anemadua, over which nothing but buffaloes can drag a wheeled conveyance of any kind; and there are also two or three most dangerous oyas, which in the rainy season interrupt the communication for a week or ten days together.

The first and worst of these obstacles occurs close to Putlam, where a mass of deep sand and mud extends for five miles towards the interior. Fortunately, there are both gravel and stones in the vicinity, and it would be easy, consequently, to construct a causeway which would carry on the communication to Anemadua, 16 miles from Putlam. Three miles beyond Anemadua there is an embankment, well traced and drained, but never metalled, and now two feet deep in mud, over which the horses found their way with the greatest difficulty. This embankment extends for nearly three miles; but if upon these two points the road were once thoroughly made, I feel satisfied that it might be kept open throughout the year by the produce of the tolls, and by ordinance labour, to the great advantage both of the Government and the public.

I have consequently authorized the commissioner of public works to prepare an estimate, showing the amount of money that might be usefully expended this year, in commencing this work, and it is my intention to sanction this expenditure upon a supplementary vote, leaving it to the Legislative Council to provide for its continuance in the estimate for 1858.

With regard to bridges, the most pressing wants of the district can be provided for without any extraordinary outlay, by placing two of the iron bridges recently ordered

## CEYLON.

in England at the Tirreppitchany ella, which forms the outlet of the tank of Nioaravetia and at the Maggroo oya, six miles from Kurnegalle, the banks of which are so precipitous that the place is noted for highway robberies, no less than five instances having occurred within the last year of carts being plundered while attempting the passage. The first of these requires a bridge of 50 feet span, the second of 100. There must also be a timber bridge of 30 feet at Tallacallaheina, which is often a formidable stream, though kept at so low a level, in order not to interfere with the traffic upon the road, that it is rendered unserviceable for the purposes of irrigation. With a bridge and a temporary dam, the headmen state that 200 acres of excellent paddy land may be brought again into cultivation.

The cost of this bridge will not exceed 120*l*.; and the commissioner of public works proposes to proceed at once with the abutments both for that and the two iron bridges, so as to be prepared for their immediate erection upon their arrival from England. This must also be provided for by a supplementary vote, when I know the amount required, as the bridges may then be forwarded direct to their intended site, without being placed in store at Colombo.

Major Skinner also recommends that a third iron bridge of 50 feet span should be appropriated to the Kispotta oya, between Kurnegalle and Kandy. The abutments were commenced 30 years ago; and the growing importance of the district, where coffee planting is rapidly increasing, renders it highly desirable that the work should be completed.

When these proposals are carried out, there will be a continuous line of bandy road open for eighty miles, from Putlam to Kandy, and through Kandy to all the most important parts of the interior, the only river not being bridged over being the Dedra oya, between Nioaravetia and Warrispelle, a deep and dangerous stream, which must be dealt with ultimately, but which cannot be so at present without an outlay disproportioned to the actual state of the communications, which I do not propose to perfect, but to make available for practical purposes, and more especially for the easy and regular transmission of salt to those parts of the island where the consumption is largest, and the demand susceptible of the greatest extension.

The road from Kurnegalle to Kandy (26 miles) is in very fair order, and may be kept so by ordnance labour.

## NIOOVERETIA TANK.

When at Niooveretin I inspected this tank, to which my attention was called during my previous visit to Kurnegalle (September 1855), and with regard to which a deep interest is felt by the whole surrounding country. The tank was originally 19 miles in circumference; it is now reduced to five or six miles, by the bursting of the dam which confined the waters of the river that serves as its feeder, and the level of the water in the tank is so low that it has become unavailable for the purposes of irrigation.

I visited the site of the old dam with Major Skinner; and if a simple earthen embankment, rudely constructed by the natives, was sufficient to stay the course of the stream for seven years, which is the statement made to us by the headmen and villagers, a large number of whom accompanied us, I can see no difficulty in constructing a masonry dam that would effect the same object permanently at a comparatively moderate cost, as both stone and lime may be found in the neighbourhood. Unfortunately, the survey which I ordered to be made 12 months ago by Mr. Scott, who was at that time stationed at Kurnegalle, is of so hasty and superficial a character that it does not afford sufficient data for a decision, and I must refer the matter to Mr. Churchill or Captain Sim, whose employment, as consulting engineer in cases of this sort the Secretary of State was pleased to authorize, before I can venture upon any recommendation.

It is necessary to ascertain in the first instance the practicability of the work,—which, from the depth of the channel across which the dam must be carried, and the large mass of water to be retained, must naturally present some engineering difficulties,—the probable cost, and the extent of the land to be brought under cultivation if the scheme be successful, for it is to this that the Government must look for a return for its advances. The district offers one great advantage; it has an abundant population; and this is one of the elements of success, which in most of the tank countries is entirely wanting.

## KURNEGALLE.

The transfer of the residence of the government agent at Kurnegalle, where there cannot be a doubt that it always ought to have been placed, and the removal from Putlam of a part of his establishment, will require considerable alterations in the catcherry, which is badly situated, badly lighted, badly ventilated, and altogether unsuited to the work to be done in it, the number of clerks employed, and the climate. An offer has been made to the Government of a newly-built house, which might be bought for 550*l*., and would afford the requisite accommodation; but there are doubts as to its solidity, and nothing can be done without a careful examination and report by the local officer. In one way or the other, however, the necessary accommodation must be given, for it is impossible that the public business can be properly conducted without it.

Some alterations will also be required in the government agent's house; and the soil, as usual, is deficient in almost every essential requisite.

I cannot close this "Minute" without expressing the very great pleasure that I have derived from witnessing the excellent spirit evinced by the people in every part of the seven korles that I visited. The commissioner of public works, who had known the district in 1848, when it was eminently disaffected, was much struck with the change I ascribe it partly to the improvements that have taken place in the administration of the provinces under my predecessors, and which have brought home to all classes a sense of the advantages of British rule, and partly to the gratification experienced by the people at seeing Kurnegalle again made the seat of government; the crops too during the present season have been peculiarly abundant. The population generally evinces a lively interest in the improvement of their roads, and look with much favour upon the Irrigation Act, from which they anticipate great advantages. And all these causes, combined with the circumstance that I am, I believe, the only Governor that has passed along the Putlam road since the time of Sir Edward Barnes, procured me the honour of a reception, most gratifying in itself, but doubly so when viewed as a proof that the Government has to deal here with an observing and intelligent people, able to appreciate and ready gratefully to acknowledge every act that is intended for its benefit.

Pavilion, Kandy, January 30, 1857.

H. G. WARD.

#### POSTSCRIPT.

I now append to this Minute the results of the inquiries made upon some of the more important points adverted to in it.

1. The report of Captain Sim, R.E., upon the tank of Nicoveretin.
2. The report of Mr. Churchill upon the irrigation scheme at Madampe.
3. The report of the commissioners appointed to inquire into the salt revenue.

I have the more pleasure in inviting the attention of the Councils to this most able and judicious paper, because, although upon many points the views of the commissioners coincide with my own, as to the defects of the present system, and the desirableness of improving it, the results of their inquiries entirely disprove much of the information given to me before my visit to Putlam, or rather show the inaccuracy of the construction which from unacquaintance with the details of the salt administration I had been led to put upon that information.

The sale of salt in large quantities, from the kottos of the manufacturers, where it cannot be weighed or brought to account with the same accuracy as when received into the Government stores, may be and no doubt is an objectionable practice; but it was never intended by my informant to indicate the existence of a contraband trade to any thing like the extent of the salt thus dealt with. However, I can hardly regret a mistake which has led to so many suggestions fraught with advantage to the revenue and to the people. I have considered that I should only anticipate the wishes of the Council in proceeding at once with such of these recommendations as were likely to be productive of immediate benefit, such as the improvement of the road between Putlam and Kurnegalle, and the opening of the communication between the sea and the salt stores at Natchekilly.

I have also written to England for the weighing machines and brass weights required, and a vote for the new salt stores, divided into compartments, and concentrated, as recommended, wherever this is practicable, will be prepared in the estimates for 1858.

I have much satisfaction in adding, that, thanks to the arrangements made by Captain Oldfield, who is now in charge of the Putlam district, a sufficient supply of labour to complete the five first miles of road after leaving Putlam has been secured, and that within the present year I hope to see the removal of this great obstacle to free communication with the interior.

June 15, 1857.

H. G. WARD.

Enclosure 6 in No. 35.

Encl. 6 in No. 35.

#### MINUTE ON THE EASTERN PROVINCE.

I HAVE already laid before the Executive Council the results of my observations upon the state of the northern province and upon the Badulla roads. It remains to me to put into a similar shape the views suggested by my visit to Trincomalee, which occupied me from the 11th February to 3d March, when I entered the district of Newera Kalawiyia. These views will, I hope, be found not undeserving of attention, from their connexion with what I may term the "tank question." I mean the question as to the practicability and prudence of attempting to restore the system of artificial irrigation, which, under different circumstances and in other times, unquestionably gave food and employment to a vast population in parts of the island which are now a desert.

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This subject was brought before me at a very early period after my arrival here, by a report\* upon the ancient canal of Ellehara, prepared by Messrs. Churchill, Adams, and Bailey. I have much pleasure in laying before the Executive Council this document, because it does credit to the enterprise, perseverance, and public spirit of the gentlemen who prepared it, and who voluntarily undertook a very laborious duty. It will be found to merit an attentive perusal, for it shows an immense amount of time, science, and combined exertion that must have been brought to bear upon works of irrigation at a period when agriculture in Europe was in the rudest and most primitive state. It proves, too, how vain human efforts are to stay the operation of those mightier causes which, though now lost in obscurity, have influenced the march of civilization, and which, so far as we can judge, by altering the course of navigation and trade, must have deprived Ceylon of those local advantages which made her, in earlier ages, the commercial depôt of the surrounding countries, and thus both created the necessity for those extraordinary works of which we admire the remains and furnished her with the means of executing them. For the purpose of these works in every instance seems to have been to provide food for a superabundant population. They may have been used as the Ellehara canal was, for traffic also; but irrigation was the primary object; and in the neighbourhood of most of the tanks, though the ground is now covered with forest trees the growth of many centuries, it is easy to trace for miles around the ridges which denote the extent of paddy cultivation that once occupied the space now hid by interminable jungle.

This is not, however, the place or the time to inquire into the causes that led to these revolutions. All that we know positively or can collect from ancient records is, that there must once have been a large population congregated upon the western side of the island, in the neighbourhood of Manaar and Aripo; that the causes which prompted the selection of this barren and desolate coast as a commercial emporium, probably determined the choice of Anaradhapura as the seat of Government; and this again led to the construction of the Giants Tank and Padiwel Culum, the most wonderful work that I have yet visited, whether we look to size, difficulties of execution, or to the time at which these were surmounted, the 62nd year of the Christian era; that other causes, equally obscure to us, forced back this teeming population, leaving every where traces of its industry and skill to the neighbourhood of Pollinarua, where its second capital was founded; that this second capital, like the first, is now a wilderness, and that nothing remains but the long line of tanks which unite it with Tamblegam Bay and Trincomalee to bespeak its ancient magnificence.

My object in visiting this scene of past splendour was a practical one. I wished to ascertain the state of the principal tanks, and to form an opinion as to the possibility of turning them to account, in connexion with modern improvements. I was accompanied on my tour by the government agents for the central and eastern provinces, as well as by Captain Sim, R.E., and Mr. Adams, one of the gentlemen who explored the Ellehara canal, and who took the direction of the party from the time that we left the main road to Trincomalee, which we did six miles beyond Dambool, at the Tappal station of Inna-malluwe, until we rejoined it again at Kandelly.

Our first day's march from Dambool was to Sigiri, a place too well known to require description.

It is the first and smallest of the line of tanks that fills the space parallel with the road from Inna-malluwe to Kandelly. Indeed, as a tank it hardly deserves to be classed with its neighbours, as it has no artificial supply of water, but simply receives in a natural hollow the drainage of the surrounding country, and more particularly of the rock upon which the old fortress of Sigiri stands. From Sigiri to Kondruwawe the first of the artificial tanks formed by regular "bund" or embankment of earth faced with stone, the distance is about eight miles. The whole intervening country is jungle, with the exception of a small amount of paddy cultivation in the vicinity of Kondruwawe.

The road is a path of the most rugged character, intersected by roots of trees and masses of rock; and a similar path leads for another eight miles from Kondruwawe to Angoulasse, a deserted village, once probably the centre of a large population, for before reaching it we crossed the "bund" of another tank, which, though now buried in jungle, must, from the size of the embankment and of the stones with which it is covered, have been of no ordinary dimensions. As we did not reach Angoulasse till dusk, the lateness of the hour prevented closer inquiry.

From Angoulasse to Topari or Pollinarua the distance is not above eight miles, yet even in that space another beautiful tank occurs, which looked more like a natural lake than a piece of artificial water, when viewed from the top of the "bund," along which we rode for 25 minutes, shaded by magnificent trees, the size of which bespeaks the antiquity of the embankment, on which they stand. This tank is the tank of Dinaitelli.

It occupies a plain opening at one end upon the distant mountains of Matelle, from whence it draws its supplies of water which are retained on one side by a natural slope, on the other side and at the end next Topari by artificial mounds of earth and stone. The embankments are perfect. The sluice or spill water has been replaced by a temporary

\* See Appendix A, page 318.

dam, which is not in good repair, and the leakage may ultimately injure the bund if not attended to. The object of the tank seems to have been the irrigation of the country between Dimitelli and Pollinarua, a space of above four miles, which is now a park studded with large trees, but bearing evident marks of ancient cultivation.

There would not, I presume, be any difficulty in restoring this whole district to its original state, if there were men to till the ground, or a market for the produce. The last might be found in the course of a few years in the growing demands of the Matelle coffee estates; but the other condition of renewed fertility seems to have disappeared altogether. From Dambool to Topari we did not see a village, and hardly a human creature.

Pollinarua or Topari, the capital of Ceylon after the abandonment of Anarailhapoora, lies upon the borders of another tank, somewhat inferior in size and beauty to Dimitelli, but filling a large portion of the plain around which the ancient town was situated. Ruins of temples and dagobas and other public edifices mark its site, and show the great extent of ground which it covered. Many of these are still in a very perfect state. The paths that lead to them, cleared by the temple tenants, and trodden by frequent passengers, show that the place has not yet lost its prestige, and that the pilgrims to Dambool often include it in their devotional visits. Still there is an air of desolation in the scene which is very striking. A small village, surrounded by magnificent trees, and separated from the lake by the bund which forms its southern boundary, is now all that remains of human habitation, in a place that must formerly have been the abode of many hundreds of thousands of our fellow creatures. Nor do I see what is to restore it.

There is indeed waste land in abundance; there is an unlimited supply of water; but it is difficult to settle a small colony in so wild and isolated a position, and I know not from whence the elements of a large colony are to be drawn, especially when there are other tanks, like Minnery and Kandelly, which combine the same natural advantages with the vicinity of a town, and a port from which, if the home market failed, their produce might be exported. As to small settlements the fate of the villages that lingered on after the removal of the royal residence from Pollinarua shows how difficult it is, without a certain amount of actual physical force represented by numbers, to resist the influence of climate, sickness, and isolation. The cholera or the small-pox sweeps across a district, and the survivors have neither strength nor courage to continue their usual labours. The clearing of the watercourses is neglected; the dams broken down; the jungle allowed to encroach upon the fields that were once cultivated; the paths that separate the village from its neighbours are overgrown; and in a very few years the beasts of the field become the lords of the soil and set the remnant of its human inhabitants at defiance. The tank districts are full of abandoned villages, of which this is the history; and the most lovely country that I have ever seen, rich in all the elements of successful industry, bids fair to become before long the domain of the elephant and the bear, without a single human competitor.

We left Pollinarua on the 17th February, and followed a jungle path for six miles, to Giritelli tank, a considerable sheet of water, which appears to be turned to little or no account. The tank was covered with every variety of birds, who were evidently seldom disturbed, and the bones of an elephant were whitening upon the grass, close to the spot where the track emerges from the forest. He was killed by the vidua of a neighbouring village, the lands of which had often suffered from his incursions.

The village itself is going rapidly to decay, and contains now only five or six families.

From Giritelli to Minnery (four miles), the path lies for three miles through thick jungle, and for the last mile through paddy fields, watered by a stream which flows constantly from the tank, and would irrigate the whole 1000 amunams of land, said once to have been under cultivation, but now reduced to 30.

In the evening we visited the lake, a much more appropriate name than tank for so large an expanse of water. It is near 21 miles in circumference, and of peculiar shape, forming bays where it receives its principal feeders. The bund is, as usual, of enormous solidity.

There is no visible outlet, at the point from which the stream that supplies the rice grounds issues. Yet it is perennial, and there can be no doubt that the run of the water is regulated by one of those ancient sluices, placed under the bed of the lake, which seem to have answered so admirably the purposes for which they were constructed, though modern engineers cannot explain their action. The embankments are perfect. No symptoms of decay appear anywhere. The supply of water is most abundant, and nothing is wanted but population. From Minnery we went to Kowdelly tank, which is said to have equalled Minnery and Kandelly together in size, but is now in ruins, the waters having burst the bund at a period so distant that what was once the bed of the tank is now a forest abounding in trees of the largest dimensions.

The distance from Minnery was variously stated at from 12 miles to 18; I think it 14, having been three and a quarter hours in doing it. The road through the jungle is good, but when it enters the bed of the tank, and passes along the bund, once coated with the stones, which are now scattered in irregular masses, or traverses the old rice grounds, which the lake formerly watered, the riding is difficult, and even dangerous. The ground too had been poached by wild animals when wet, and their tracks were as hard as iron,

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at the time of my visit. It is impossible to imagine anything wilder than the scenery. Herons and hitheras sat like statues on their accustomed perches, as our cavalcade passed, so unaccustomed were they to see or fear man. The tank still retains water in many parts, and the magnificence of the vegetation denotes a soil said to be the best in Ceylon for the growth of rice and cotton, which last production, though indigenous, and of excellent quality, has hardly yet attracted the attention of capitalists.

The district appears to have acquired a character for insalubrity when the Trincomalie road was opened, and few have since ventured to establish themselves in it. The village of Pollinnacadowille, near which we encamped, is small and poor. The population decreases annually by sickness and emigration.

Kandelly, or Gantellawe, as it is more properly called, is the last of this long series of tanks, which, connected as most of them were by the Ellehara canal, formed what was termed "the sea of Prakrama."

From its vicinity to the Trincomalie road, Kandelly is better known than any of the other tanks which I have enumerated, and needs less description.

It is a noble sheet of water, at least 16 miles in circumference, formed, as is almost universally the case, by a large embankment, uniting two natural hills, and preventing the water which flows into the plain from finding a passage between them.

The distance from Kowdelly is 14 miles, a great part of which consists most unmis- takeably of ground formerly used for rice cultivation. For three or four miles the path follows the old post road to Kandy, and for the last four miles before re-entering the high road to Trincomalie, which we did at the 78th milestone from Kandy, we passed along a minor road, cut in a perfectly straight line, until it strikes the main road, three miles to the west of Kandelly resthouse. We rode along the shores of the lake for the last one and a half miles before reaching this.

The embankment is perfect, without breach or flaw of any kind. It is 30 feet high, and 120 feet wide at its base, coated with stone, and overgrown with trees, the roots of which, striking deep into the artificial mound, impart to it additional solidity.

But for all details respecting this interesting tank I am happy to be enabled to refer to a report by Captain Sim, R.E. (prepared at my request, and appended to this minute).<sup>\*</sup> I shall have occasion to advert subsequently to the experiment for which Captain Sim is of opinion that Kandelly presents the most favourable site.

From what I have stated, it appears that within a space of 60 miles, there are distributed no fewer than nine tanks, constructed with great labour, considerable engineering skill, and of such solidity that their embankments seem to defy the hand of time; that, north of these again, about 40 miles, is Padiwil Colum, the most gigantic work of all, for the hund, which is in perfect repair, except at the one spot where in the course of ages the waters have forced a passage between it and the natural hills which it united, is 11 miles long, 30 feet broad at the summit, 180 feet the base, and 70 feet high; and that to the westward of Padiwil Colum, again, lie the tank of Anarbadapora, and the Giants' Tank, the dimensions of which I cannot give, as the work was never completed according to the original design.

Padiwil Colum, great part of which I rode or walked over, was formed by the waters of the rivers Morra oya, and Moongano oya confined to the plain by the enormous hund which I have just described. Its construction must have occupied a million of people for 10 or 15 years.

It was completed by Maha Sen, A.D. 66, and the tank when full is said to have irrigated the whole space between the hund and the sea in the direction of lake Kokolai.

A vast breach is now open, the depth of which is said to be unfathomable; and what was once the basin of the tank, is covered with magnificent timber, except in those parts which are still under water during the rainy season. These are overgrown with a coarse rank grass. For miles around there is not a vestige of man, and the temporary buildings erected for our reception had the effect of frightening away all the game in the country, so unaccustomed were the deer and buffaloes who frequent the tank to any intrusion upon their solitude.

The number and size of these artificial lakes sufficiently prove the sense entertained of the value of water as the first element of cultivation in a tropical climate by the former possessors of the soil in Ceylon, and the sacrifices to which a whole people submitted in order to secure this blessing, without which they were conscious that their labours must be of little avail; for no wisdom and no power in the ruler can have forced such efforts, even upon the most passive of oriental nations, without a general persuasion that the work was one of paramount necessity, and that all would participate in its benefits. Hence the veneration in which the names of Maha Sen and Prakrama Bahoo are still held, though causes unknown to us, wars, pestilence, or political revolutions, may have laid waste their capitals, and driven the population from the neighbourhood of their mighty works into the mountains where the Portuguese and the Dutch found them.

Can any use be made of these works by us?

<sup>\*</sup> See Appendix B., p. 326.

The tanks themselves are perfect in all their essential parts. But where shall we find a population to replace that which has disappeared? For five consecutive days I rode through the most lovely country in the world; but in that country one thing was wanting,—man!

To talk of tank repairs, or of laying out money in any other way than by bringing a fresh population into contact with the treasures which nature has lavished upon the soil, would be unequalled for as well as unprofitable.

Why repair Kowdolly or Padiwil Colum, supposing the attempt to be warranted by the state of the finances, when Kandelly and Minnery are pouring out streams of water that we cannot use, for want of hands to till the soil?

We must therefore colonize, or do nothing; and when I look to the low rate of wages in the northern province, denoting, as it does, a population much too numerous for the field of employment,—when I recollect the annual emigration from the seven korles into Nuwera Kalawiya, for the purpose of obtaining ground on which to raise a crop of koorakan, which the dearth of water, and the gradual decay of the smaller tanks prevent the people from doing at home, I cannot but think that the experiment might safely and prudently be tried.

I am of opinion that the plan proposed by Captain Sim should be fairly tested. It requires no large outlay. The co-operation of the Government agent in the northern province would secure applications for land, upon some arrangement similar to that suggested. Care must be taken to give a clear title to the land thus brought into cultivation, and to make the terms upon which it is to be occupied thoroughly understood.

There is a large Tamil population at Trincomalee which would facilitate the attempt; and if a nucleus were once formed the colony might receive additions from other quarters, and might in the end lead to some larger immigration scheme from the coast of India, when people had become aware of the advantages with which successful industry would be attended.

Should a similar disposition be found in the seven korles, or in any other Singhalese district, a colony, with its headmen, might be located in the neighbourhood of Minnery or Topari, upon similar terms, taking care to keep the Singhalese and the Tamils apart.

The experiment is one in which the course to be taken must be determined by circumstances and time; but if the Legislative Council concur with me in thinking that it would be desirable to make the attempt, I invite it to authorize the expenditure of 1,000*l*. for this purpose, in the estimates for 1857; and I will pledge myself to spare no pains, so far as the Government is concerned, to bring the matter to a satisfactory issue.

#### ROADS.

I come next to the subject of roads, and I find those best acquainted with the eastern province disposed to attribute its backward condition to the state of isolation in which it is placed, by the neglect of the main line of road, intended to unite it with the rest of the island, but which has been for many years impassable for wheel carriages, and is almost impassable for horses during some months of the year.

The first 16 miles, from Kandy to Matelle, and the last 16, from Palampoota to Trincomalee, are the only portions of the road that have ever been completed.

The remaining 81 miles are in an infinitely worse state than when the line was first opened by Sir Edward Barnes, nothing at all having been done, either by ordinance labour, or out of general revenue, to repair the damage annually caused by the waters, which have worn deep gullies across the road, and render the approaches to the Dambool and Nnland oyas difficult, if not dangerous, even in the driest season.

I have a very strong impression that within no distant period the importance of keeping open the communication with Trincomalee will make itself much more generally felt than it is at present. The harbour is one of the finest in the world, and it is moreover the only harbour in Ceylon. If steam communication with Australia be re-established, as is to be expected, now that peace is restored, or a double line from Suez be introduced, it is physically impossible that the roadstead of Galle can long suffice for the increasing demands upon it, or that private companies will risk their magnificent vessels in a most insecure anchorage, for the accommodation of a Government which, at the cost of one of them, laid out upon its own roads, might run a mail every 24 hours between Kandy and Trincomalee, and receive its correspondence in Colombo almost as soon as it does at present, the steamers being unable to enter the harbour at Galle after sunset, and consequently, often losing twelve hours in landing their mails.

I admit that the mere chance of this contingency would not justify the outlay of 40,000*l*. or 50,000*l*. of public money in remaking and metalling the whole line to Trincomalee, nor is there sufficient traffic without it between the eastern and central provinces to warrant so large an expenditure.

Salt, salt fish, wax, deers' horns, and a few other articles of native produce, are conveyed by tavillams from the coast to the interior, and might be sent in larger quantities, if bandies could be employed. But there is no habitual exchange in bulky articles of food or produce; and I shall therefore limit my proposals to a part of the road

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which possesses a distinct character; I mean that between Matelle and Dambool, as far as the point of junction with the great central road to Anaradhapoora and Jaffna.

I have already stated, in my Minute on the northern province, that during nine months of the year this road is passable for a wheel carriage. The worst part of it was that nearest to Dambool, and this is now under repair. It is only between Dambool and Matelle that the communication becomes impracticable.

If this were restored, not absolutely by metalling the thirty-two miles of road, but by levelling it, and opening the side drains, so as to allow a passage for the water, a carriage might pass during the dry season from Galle to Jaffna, while the central province would gain access to the only forests from which it can now obtain a supply of timber (those about Nalande and Dambool), and at the same time a great step would be made in the direction of Trincomalee, should circumstances require that road to be opened.

My wish is in all that we do to work upon a well-considered plan, and with a distinct object.

I am pledged to recommend a vote for 1,500*l.* for continuing the metalled road between Jaffna and the Elephants' pass, from the 24th to the 28th milestone. Four miles more would bring it into contact with the central road, and this I think it would be desirable to convert into the main post road, as it is already the main road for the immigrant coolies on their way to the coffee districts.

I feel confident that we shall be enabled to manage all these things better when they are concentrated; that the maintenance of the resthouses, the care of the coolies, and the transmission of the mails, may be better looked after upon one line of road, than upon two or three, as is the case at present; and if we thus combine many different interests at Dambool it appears to be equally desirable that Dambool should be brought into easier communication with Kandy and Colombo.

I shall propose a vote, therefore, for 1,500*l.* in the estimates for 1857 for the purpose of improving such portion of the road between Matelle, Nalande, and Dambool as the department of Public Works considers it possible to undertake without interfering with works already in progress.

If it be necessary hereafter to go to Trincomalee, we shall be in a better position to do so. If not, we shall have done much to open up the island, by rendering it possible to go from its northern to its southern extremity in a wheeled carriage, and this by simply improving the means at our disposal, without clearing away jungle, or opening any new line of road, things seldom effected in this country without much loss of life and great uncertainty in the expenditure.

#### PUBLIC WORKS.

I have seen with much pain the state of the government buildings generally in Trincomalee, some of which have been allowed to fall into decay from the want of a proper outlay at the proper time, while others ought never to have been classed or designated as public offices. The kutcherry and the bungalow of the district judge are two examples of this system, which will entail upon the Government a very heavy expenditure during the present year. Of the kutcherry, I can only say that it is a disgrace to any civilized community. I never saw a goal, or the cells of a police lock-up house, in so bad a condition. Even during the driest season the rafters that support the roof were dripping with moisture, and large bats were flying about at mid-day, in this congenial atmosphere. Yet this is the place where the whole business of the eastern province is conducted, and where the government agent, the assistant agent, and fifteen shroffs and clerks, are expected to pass seven hours out of the twenty four.

I was naturally desirous not to leave public servants in such a situation as this for one day longer than was absolutely necessary, but there were circumstances which rendered an immediate remedy difficult, if not impossible.

Any repair of the present kutcherry is out of the question; the walls, the roof, the flooring are equally rotten.

There is, however, a large space near it, containing the foundations of an extensive range of buildings, formerly the residence of the government agent, but which were allowed to fall down in 1848, and this might be made available, should it be found necessary to reconstruct an entirely new set of government offices.

But I was not without hopes that this outlay might be avoided by transferring the kutcherry to the house now appropriated to the government agent, who might either remain in his present residence, with some additional accommodation, or be provided for elsewhere, should the Admiralty be disposed to sell the residence of the storekeeper upon the esplanade at a reasonable price.

Unfortunately the government agent's house was not at the moment available. The roof, which is a flat one, and of great thickness, having begun to bear so heavily upon the walls and pillars in the centre of the building that there was great risk of its falling in, unless lightened.

As a residence the house was unsafe in its then condition; but Lieutenant Philpots thought that the pressure might be removed by throwing a light tiled roof over the centre of the building, leaving the side apartments unaltered. I directed him to reconsider



this idea, and to give me an estimate of the probable expense of carrying it out, which he has done since my return to Kandy. The estimate amounts to 756*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.*; and as the work could not be delayed without endangering the whole building, I authorised the immediate expenditure of the money, which must be charged to the supplementary estimate.

Whether the house be occupied as a kutchery or by the government agent, the alteration was indispensable, or the Government would have been forced to hire accommodation for its servants, with a large amount of Crown property upon its hands which is positively unserviceable.

The government agent now proposes to transfer the kutcherry establishment to this building, as soon as completed, and states that 200*l.* or 250*l.* will be sufficient to provide such additions as are required to the house which he now occupies.

This will be included in the estimates for 1857, as will the repairs of the judge's bungalow, of which only one room remains standing. The godowns and sleeping apartments must be entirely rebuilt, both the roof and the walls having fallen in; and I cannot estimate the outlay at less than 600*l.* The courthouse and the gaol are in very tolerable order.

My attention having been called by the Secretary of State to the English burying ground, in which five government agents, and several officers of distinction belonging to both services, are interred, besides many civilians, I saw, with feelings which it is very difficult for me to express, the utter desolation of the spot, the defacing of the monuments, the desecration of the graves, the wholesale plunder of every particle of lead or iron used in their construction, which are the results of the unhappy differences that have prevailed as to the parties who ought to be responsible for the maintenance of the wall and the proper guardianship of the burying ground.

I considered this state of things most discreditable to the Government and to the community. On inquiring into the causes of it, I found that it must be mainly ascribed to the belief entertained by the Government that the burying ground is attached to the church of St. Stephen, and that the trustees of the one are bound to provide for the maintenance of the other.

The Government, relying upon the 14th clause of Ordinance No. 12. of 1846, has refused to provide funds, which it thinks ought to be provided by the trustees of the church; while the trustees state that the church was only built in 1841, partly by Government aid and partly by private subscription, but that the burying ground existed in the time of the Dutch, and was handed over to the Crown as the property of the Dutch Government upon the occupation of Trincomalee by Her Majesty's forces. They add, I believe, with perfect truth, that no title deed for the church itself has been or can be given under the Ordinance, the church being situated within the walls of one of Her Majesty's fortresses, and that the trust, consequently, has ceased to exist, the trustees finding that they had neither funds nor legal powers.

The fees of the burying ground are, moreover, regulated by a Government tariff, wholly inadequate to meet the expenses even of the most economical guardianship, and though there is no want of liberality in the community of Trincomalee, and no indifference to the very painful impression which the state of this public establishment must produce upon the minds both of natives and foreigners, it is not to be expected that men will come forward to do what they conceive that the Government ought to do, unless some clear and intelligible principle be laid down for the avoidance of future difficulties.

Under these circumstances, I considered that I should best carry out the views of the Secretary of State by putting an end at once to the public scandal of the existing state of things, and by making the best arrangement that I could to avoid its recurrence.

I proposed, therefore, to wall in the burying ground immediately, at the expense of Government, and to appoint the government agent for the time being, the commandant of the garrison, and the colonial chaplain, to act as trustees for the whole Christian community of Trincomalee, with power to levy such fees upon burials and monuments as will provide for the costs of maintenance.

Should the fees not suffice for what is required, I have received the strongest assurances that private liberality will supply the deficiency.

It was supposed at the time of my visit that the cost of the wall would not exceed 200*l.*, but this was a rough estimate made by Lieutenant Philpots, without any previous examination of the ground, and for which he cannot justly be held responsible. The actual expense, including the purchase of a small additional piece of land, which was represented by the Government agent and the colonial chaplain to be absolutely necessary, will not fall short of 498*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.*

But, though I regret the necessity of an outlay so far exceeding what I was led to expect in the first instance, I have not felt myself justified upon that account in suspending a work which I am certain that both the Secretary of State and the Legislative Council would have considered as indispensable had they seen, as I did, the scandalous state of things which this outlay will put an end to.

I may add that the arrangement has given general satisfaction, and that the inhabitants of Trincomalee, as will be seen by the annexed papers\*, have pledged them-

\* See Appendix C., page 329.

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selves by resolutions passed at a public meeting to assume the entire charge of the cemetery in future.

H. G. WARD.

## APPENDIX.

## A.

*Report on the Canal from Ellehara, near Matelle, to Minnery, and thence to Gantalawe, near Trincomalie.*

OUR attention having in 1853 been drawn to the remains of an enormous stone bund across the Ambanganga at Ellehara, in the district of Matelle, we resolved on taking the first opportunity of making a close inspection of it, and of tracing the canal which, according to tradition, was directed from that river into the Gantalawe Tank, near Trincomalie. Circumstances prevented our carrying out our intention until lately; and having now completed our exploration of this the most extensive work of irrigation in Ceylon, we are induced to throw the information which we have collected into the form of a report for the information of Government, as it may at some future period prove useful.

It is recorded in the native histories of Ceylon that canals were formed which conveyed the waters of the "Karaganga" to Minnery, and thence to Gantalawe, and these are attributed to King Mahasen, who reigned A.D. 275. Native history also records that Prakrama Bahoo I., who reigned A.D. 1153, diverted the waters of the same "Karaganga" into "the sea of Prakrama." Local tradition assigns the canal at Ellehara to Mahasen, and the bund across the Ambanganga to Prakrama Bahoo. And Major Forbes, in his work on Ceylon, mentions having procured an inscription from a stone pillar, which, at the time he wrote, existed in the ruins of the bund, "signifying that the canal was" completed by the happy, victorious, and illustrious monarch of Ceylon, Prakrama Bahoo.\*

Now, as the Ambanganga is the only stream in that part of the country which bears the name of "Ganga," or which deserves to be described as a "river,"—as the bund at Ellehara is the greatest work upon it, and as we have ascertained, beyond a doubt, that the canal leading from it conveyed its waters to Minnery and thence to Gantalawe,—these facts, supported by the unvarying tradition existing among the natives of almost every village along its route, seem to us satisfactorily to establish the identity of the "Karaganga" with the Ambanganga; and, therefore, to prove that the canals leading from it were the works of Mahasen, who, we are told, "formed the great tank at Minnery, and, by damming up the Karaganga, turned its stream into it;" and "that he cut" the Talawnta Ella canal, by which means he formed 20,000 fields, which he dedicated "to the Deenaka Wilare, whereby the rice grounds got the name of Dantalawe; (Gantalawe—Kandaly)§." But the inscription mentioned by Major Forbes, as well as local tradition, ascribes the bund to Prakrama Bahoo, whose reign commenced 852 years after the death of Mahasen. History also records, as we mentioned before, that among the many canals cut by him "for the purpose of diverting the rivers into the great tanks," he formed "the Goodaaviree canal, to divert the waters of the Karaganga into the sea of Prakrama."¶

It seems therefore beyond dispute that the "sea of Prakrama" was in the neighbourhood of Ellehara, and the remains of the bund across the river, and the vast size of the embankment between that place and Kondrowawe, leave on our minds the conviction that it was formed by the enlargement of the works first executed by Mahasen.

We are led to this conclusion by a careful examination of the gigantic embankments, in parts eighty and ninety feet high, and by as careful a study of the adjacent country as our opportunities permitted. When the whole body of the river was diverted from its course, the waters, receding, must have spread themselves over many miles of flat or imperceptibly rising ground, to the foot of the Kondrowawe range of hills; and nine large streams being turned by the embankment, a series of immense lagoons, extending from Ellehara to Kondrowawe, must have been the consequence.

\* Forbes' Eleven Years in Ceylon, vol. II., p. 95; allusion is also made to the inscription at page 33.

† Mahasen is still regarded as the Deity of Minnery; his shrine is there, and is regarded as the most sacred in Ceylon.

‡ *Ā* of an offering *ā* a plain.

§ See Turnour's Epitome of the History of Ceylon, published in the Ceylon Almanac for 1833. Also Mahawamsa, p. 237.

¶ See "Turnour's Epitome," and Note No. 1, at end of Report.

Reference to the drawing, No. 2, will show, that, in the first instance, the canal was excavated to a deep pool in the river, and that the bund built by Prakrama Bahoo, probably on the site of the former one by Mahasen, is at a considerable distance below the mouth of the canal, upon a ledge of rock stretching nearly across the river. It is probable, therefore, that Prakrama Bahoo took advantage of the existing works to assist him in carrying out his own project.

The situation of the "sea of Prakrama" has never, hitherto, been satisfactorily ascertained. Major Forbes indeed surmised that the series of lakes formed by this canal might be "the waters to which the vanity of a king gave his own name;" but he adds, "that until this canal shall have been traced through the Kondrowawe hills, the extent and difficulty of such an undertaking must excite doubts whether it were successfully accomplished."

We have so traced it, and have, we think, proved that Major Forbes' surmises are correct. In no other parts of Ceylon are there the remains of so many and so extensive lagoons so closely adjoining each other. In no part of the island is there, as far as we know, one continuous embankment, extending, without intermission, for twenty-four miles, and varying from forty to ninety feet in height.

The "sea" must have ceased at Kondrowawe; for, from the point where the communication branches off to Minnery and Giritella, the reduced proportions of the embankments, and the altered nature of the country, show that canals only extended to Minnery, Gantalawa, and Giritella.

We began on the 6th ultimo, by examining the commencement of the work at Ellehara, and taking the dimensions of the stone bund.

The Ambanganga is formed by the confluence, at or near the village of Ambene, of four or five considerable streams, taking their sources in the south and west parts of Matelle; thence it is called the Ambanganga. A range of hills, commencing from a spur of the Lagalle mountains, extends in a northerly direction to the left or southern bank of the river, nearly opposite the present village of Ellehara. At a point where this range approaches within a distance of 200 yards from the river a large embankment of earth, with stone revetments, commences, and extends for about 130 yards, terminating in a wing-wall, about fifteen feet in height. Here begins the large spill-water, the length of which was probably about ninety yards, and from its extremity ran, at an obtuse angle, the great stone bund; this extended across the stream until it joined an immense earth embankment, with stone revetments, averaging sixty feet in height, which still exists, and leads to the mouth of Mahasen's canal.

The remains of the spill-water measure seventy-six yards in length. This brings us to the edge of the river; and it is evident that it was continued for some twelve or fourteen yards further to the rocky foundation in the bed of the river on which the great stone bund was built. The breadth at the top, at its southern end, is twenty-nine yards; and at the northern end, where it has been carried away, thirty-three. Its height above the level of the water at ordinary seasons is about forty feet; it is built throughout of huge blocks of hewn stone embedded in chunam, which still remains in the interstices. The stones in the interior of the work were carved with figures, and evidently had formed part of a building of an earlier date. This is also observable at Kalawawet and Bahalawewe, works of irrigation in Nuwerakalawia, and also attributed to Prakrama Bahoo, which seems to prove that the larger works of irrigation in Ceylon are of a comparatively modern date.

Great engineering skill is shown in preparing the rock to receive the foundations of the large stone bund across the river. Upon the outer side, these consist of a trench cut into the solid rock, to receive the first layer of masonry. At a distance of twenty-five feet inwards is a continuous row of holes, two feet square, and about three feet apart, and sunk to a depth of about three feet: into these were fitted large stone pillars, the remains of some of which, broken short off, are still to be seen. One of them protrudes above the surface of the rock to the height of about two feet.

Parallel to this, and at a distance of ten feet from it, is another row of smaller holes, into which also pillars were fitted to form the inner edge of the masonry. From the angle in the centre of the bund another row of holes extends, in a semicircular direction, towards the spill-water.

The annexed drawings will better explain what we have thus attempted to describe.

From the northern extremity of the stone bund, and nearly in the same direction, a large earthen embankment, faced with stone revetments, extends as far as the mouth of Mahasen's canal—in a distance of nearly half a mile.

The waters of the river, checked by these vast embankments, must have inundated the low lands lying on either side of the river, for a distance of about ten miles; thus forming the largest of that series of lagoons which doubtless bore the name of the "sea of

\* Forbes, p. 33, vol. II. We had arrived at the conclusion, that the series of lakes thus formed was the sea of Prakrama, before seeing Major Forbes' remarks, and were surprised at the coincidence, when at Pollinnaruwa we read the passage which we quote above.

† Dasenkeliya or Dhanator Sena probably formed this tank, A.D. 459, but Prakrama Bahoo is said to have improved and repaired it.

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Prakrama." As a proof that these low lands were so inundated, gigantic koobooks, trees only growing in or near the immediate neighbourhood of water, are now to be found far above the height to which the river overflows its banks.

At first sight it would appear that here the river naturally divides into two channels, the one being very much larger than the other; but on closer inspection we have come to the conclusion, that what appears the smaller branch was, in reality, the mouth of Mahasen's canal, leading into a deep pool in the bed of the river; which, with a bund, very much smaller than that of which we have described the remains, would have afforded a sufficient supply of water for the purposes for which it is said to have been formed.

Prakrasa Bahoo, however, having conceived the idea of forming his "sea," constructed the bund we have described at a point where he could obtain a good rocky foundation, and could easily connect the high ground on either side of the river. We were led to the conclusion, that what now seems a smaller branch of the river is artificial, and was the excavated mouth of the canal, by the facts of its banks being rocky and precipitous, and very much higher than the land on the south side of the river. This channel, therefore, could not have been formed by the natural course of the water.

At a quarter of a mile from the mouth of the canal the rush of water appears to have breached the bank, through which the stream now flows, and joins the river at some distance lower down. There are here some hewn stones scattered about, which are evidence of the remains of the embankment. From this point, therefore, the bed of the canal is quite dry; a very small stream only, in a slightly different direction, being led to the fields now existing at Ellehara.

From the same spur of the Laggalle mountains, to which we made allusion before, a range of hills extend in a north-easterly direction through Kondrowawe to within half a mile of the Minneriyake. The Ambanganga, having received the waters of several other streams, intersects these mountains at the village of Ambene, and flows down to Ellehara, a distance of about fourteen miles.

To conduct the water of the Ambanganga to Minneriy, and to divert the streams falling from this range of hills, this wonderful embankment, which extended, without intermission, for 2½ miles, was constructed. Its height, as before mentioned, varies from 40 to 90 feet, but, taking its average at 50 feet, it must have contained more than 3,800,000 cubic yards of earthwork, which, with the masonry, would have cost, at the present rate of labour, not less than 200,000*l*. This only includes the works from Ellehara to Kondrowawe. The range of hills to which we have alluded are at some places at a distance of several miles from the embankment, and the ground intervening between it and their base being flat, or rising with an almost imperceptible slope, was submerged. In other places, the small spurs of the hills approached so near the embankment as to form a series of canals connecting the lagoons, which the receding hills enclosed. Of these lagoons, the largest was that at the stone bund across the river, where the hills form a large amphitheatre; eight others, connected by as many canals, covered the intervening space above the embankment, between Ellehara and Kondrowawe.\*

From the point at which the waters of the river have breached the canal, the embankment continues about 50 feet high to the present village of Ellehara. At a distance of about a quarter of a mile from the commencement, advantage has been taken of a flat rock to form a spill-water of about 70 feet wide, with wing walls 15 feet high. This was evidently as a safeguard for the overflow of water in the great lagoon, which, over this spill-water, returned to the river.

Mr. Turnour, in the Ceylon Almanac for 1833, quoting from Mr. Brooke's notes, mentions that "at the commencement of the canal, or about 300 yards from the Ambanganga, a basin has been cut, about 500 to 400 yards in circumference, said to have been excavated when the canal was made, and no doubt was originally a harbour for boats passing up and down." He adds, "It has also had a communication with the canal." We could find no trace of this basin, and think that Mr. Brooke must have mistaken the spill-water which we have described as the communication to which he alludes.

The present village of Ellehara is situated at about two miles from the mouth of the canal; the fields lie below the embankment, and are still cultivated by means of the water of the Ambanganga. Most of the houses, however, are now upon ground formerly part of the site of the great lagoon. A sluice through the embankment still conveys the water to the fields. The name of the village proves that its existence commenced subsequent to the formation of the canal.†

The few houses which yet remain occupied in this once extensive village are wretched to a degree, and from the number of ruined and deserted huts, and traces of sites of former dwellings, there is no doubt that the place was once very flourishing, even when Mr. Brooke passed through it, about 23 years ago: it contained 50 families, which number is now reduced to 10;‡

\* See Note No. 2, at end of Report.

† a canal was *erode* to turn.

‡ Mr. Brooke erroneously places Ellehara at a distance of only nine miles from Nelaude. Its distance, however, is about 19 miles.

On the 7th, leaving our camp at Ellehara, we set out to commence the exploration of the canal towards Kondrowawe. A road traced towards Batticaloa is cut for three miles, at no great distance from the embankment. Two considerable streams, the Kongatoo Oya and Kirisalegalle Ella, which were once checked by the embankment, have breached it; the first about half a mile and the second at about two miles from the village of Ellehara. At about a mile and a half from the last breach stands a gigantic tamarind tree, on the top of the embankment. This tree, which measures twenty-six feet two inches in circumference, is called the Orubenda Siembalagha.\* Tradition has it, that boats stopping there on their transit up and down the canal were fastened, and the natives point out some scars near its root which they say were the marks of chains and ropes.† It is worthy of remark that there is no other tree near it at all approaching it in size, and it is evidently a tree of very great age. We have found the traditions regarding the canal so consistent throughout, that we cannot help laying some stress on this legend, for we have the most satisfactory proof, from the size of the embankment, that the line from Kondrowawe to Ellehara was navigable. This tree stands at the end of the second large lagoon, and near it are the foundations of some building on the embankment, which was at this point about 90 feet high.

In consequence of the high lands approaching the embankment, a canal extends for a mile into the next lagoon, which begins at a spot where the Hirettia Oya enters it, and after flowing along the embankment for a short distance, branches it, and flows down to the river. About half a mile further on it is again breached by the Bakamoonoo Ella. From this point half a mile of canal leads into another large lagoon, along the base of which the embankment extends for two miles, when the natural high land approaches, and forms with it a canal, which extends half a mile to the Kottapitiya Oya which has breached the bank. The lateness of the evening here obliged us to return to Ellehara.

We now found considerable difficulty in obtaining any one who would undertake to guide us to Kondrowawe, for though many had crossed the embankment at different places, no one had ever gone along it; and the distance and difficulties of the route were greatly exaggerated by the people, from their utter ignorance of it, and their fear that no water might be found by the way. The country between Ellehara and Kondrowawe is now an almost impenetrable jungle, nearly destitute of water at this the dry season, with only the site of a deserted village here and there.

Having at length succeeded in obtaining a hunter from Kondrowawe, who undertook to guide us, although he admitted that that part of the country was very imperfectly known to him, we despatched our large tent, horses, and all the baggage we could spare, by the known road, which is a very circuitous one, to Kondrowawe, and on the morning of the 9th, taking with us only a small tent, supplies for two days, and as much water as we could procure gourds to contain, we started to prosecute our trace as long as daylight lasted. We quickly walked over the ground which we had chained the day before, and recommenced our survey from the Kottapitiya Oya. While breakfasting, we imprudently sent on our guides and catty men, with a view to expedite our work, and lost some time from having missed our way, the high banks of the oya misleading us, as they closely resembled the embankment which was hidden from us by the thick jungle, but which we afterwards found left the river at a sharp angle. On regaining the embankment, we found that it gradually increased in size till it averaged, for many miles, 80 feet in height. For nearly three miles we found it without a breach, and it was evident, from the absence of jungle immediately above it, that in the wet season a considerable quantity of water collects along it. Here the lagoon must have been very extensive, as the base of the hills is four or five miles from the embankment.

A little further on we found it breached, in two places, by a considerable stream, the Keerewanaheena Ella, which rises in the Kondrowawe range. For about three quarters of a mile a canal connects this lagoon with the adjoining one. Evening was by this time closing in, and as we found that much of our supply of water had been drunk by the coolies to whom it had been intrusted, it became necessary to seek for camping ground at some reasonable distance from a spring. Our guide, who had hunted over this part of the canal, undertook to lead us to a plain about a mile from the Ella, at about two miles from which there was a spring. We then sent our coolies to pitch the tent and bring water, while we continued our survey as long as light permitted. We ceased chaining at a large rock spill-water, and it being too dark to take its dimensions then, we were guided to our halting place.

Early on the 10th we returned to the spill-water. We found it a sheet of smooth rock, about 12 feet in height, 110 feet long, and 110 feet in breadth. At one end of it is a channel cut through the solid rock, 7 feet deep, 6 feet wide, into which sluice gates

\* මැද-පැය-බිංදු "The tamarind tree to which boats are tied."

† If the wounds penetrated the bark of the tree, which they doubtless did, and reached the wood, Mr. Thwaites, the Superintendent of the Royal Botanical Gardens at Peradenia, informs us that their marks would never be effaced; and that, were the bark over the wounds removed, it is very probable, notwithstanding the lapse of time since they were inflicted, that traces of the injury to the wood would be visible.

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evidently fitted, for the irrigation of the fields below.\* Wing walls rose at either end, about 20 feet above the level of the spill-water. Below the spill, and outside the large embankment, is another embankment of considerable size, which apparently was for the purpose of protecting the fields immediately below, in great floods, as well as for conveying the water to other parts of the country for the purpose of irrigation. We regret that we had not time to explore this branch, below which, we were informed, lies a vast plain called Patumbegah Ella Daseconoo, where doubtless were formerly the fields irrigated by this sluice.

Opposite to the spill-water, and continuing parallel to the embankment for a considerable distance, we observed, at about 100 feet from it, a small earth bank about six feet high, which may either have been intended to regulate the flow of water over the spill, or to confine it in a canal in the dry season for the purpose of navigation.

At about two miles from the spill-water the lagoon terminates in a canal, cut through rock for a distance of about 200 yards, and about 30 feet in width, at the end of which the embankment is again breached by a stream, now called the Attanakade Ella. Two other breaches occur about a mile further on, caused by the Megolle Ella. One of them probably is at the spot where the sluice for the irrigation of the fields of the now deserted village of Oulpotegame existed.

The high ground here approaches the embankment, and a canal for about three quarters of a mile extends to the site of the deserted village of Tahacolepitiya, the fields of which were formerly irrigated by the water of Pécolom, a large tank situated about four miles west of the embankment. This village was deserted twenty-five years ago, and a few fields are still cultivated by the people of Kondrowawe, below the great embankment, by the water which escapes from the ruined tank in the rainy season, in a stream called the Radawigi Oya, which has bridged the embankment just beyond Tahacolepitiya.

We now approached the plains adjoining Kondrowawe, and, owing to our guide's ignorance of the country and the thickness of the jungle, again wandered from the embankment, which, however, after some hours' search, we regained about a mile and a half from the village of Kondrowawe, where we met our people whom we had sent by the road, and breakfasted. Here there is still a considerably larger tank about the embankment, and at a higher level than the canal. This apparently was fed both by streams falling from the hills, and from the water of Pécolom tank. It is separated from the canal by a large embankment. Having ascertained that the spot at which the canal branched off to Minnery and Giritella was two miles further on, we proceeded thither and there encamped for the night.

Between the village and this point we passed two sluices, long disused, but originally for the purpose of irrigating the numerous fields once existing below the embankment. The first of these penetrated the embankment at a spot where advantage had been taken of a natural rock to form a spill-water, which is singular from the fact of its having two levels. The entire breadth, including both spills, from wing-wall to wing-wall, is 200 feet. The lower spill-water is about eight feet from the present bed of the canal, and measures in breadth about 50 feet; the level of the higher spill-water is about 10 feet higher, and was 150 feet in breadth, and through it are two sluices, nearly at the level of the canal, each two feet square. The length was nearly 200 feet. Large waste plains are described as lying below this water, once, doubtless, rich paddy fields; and the natives described an embankment similar to that which we had observed at the other spill-water. This, however, we had not time to explore.

The second sluice was so dilapidated that we could not distinguish its plan. There was evidently no spill-water here, and the natives could give us no information concerning it.

The direct line of canals and lagoons from Ellehara terminates beyond this sluice in a stone spill-water, at a short distance above which branch off two canals, the one on the right leading to Giritella tank, and that to the left said to lead to Minnery. The spill-water at the extremity of the canal consists of a solid mass of masonry, 112 feet in length and 56 feet in breadth, and, like the one which we noticed before, is at two different elevations, the lower one having a breadth of 20 feet, and the upper of 36 feet. The level of the one is about four feet above that of the other. The masonry of this spill-water is bonded together in a very peculiar manner, combining every possible mode of presenting resistance to the flood of water over it. The inner faces of the embankment here were protected from the action of the water by strong wing-walls.

The distance from the mouth of Mahasen's canal to the spill-water is about 24 miles.

On the morning of the 11th we sent our tents and people direct to Minnery by the native path, and having obtained a guide who undertook to bring us by the canal to that place, we proceeded with our survey, preferring the main branch to Minnery to the smaller one to Giritella. After chaining for one and a half miles, we found that the direction of this canal bore considerably to the westward; and after some hesitation our guides confessed that they had never been there before, and that they now believed that this canal led to Pécolom, instead of to Minnery, the only connection with the latter

place being, they averred, by means of a sandy stream called the Talawatura, which conveyed the surplus of the great canal over the spill-water.\*

As we had sent all our baggage to Minnery, and could form no idea of the distance to Pécolum, we were reluctantly obliged to abandon the exploration of this canal, resolving, however, on the first opportunity, to return and satisfy ourselves as to its direction. We accordingly left the canal by one of its branches, and following the Talawatura for a considerable distance, reached Minnery lake through the old tank of Katukaliawe.

Fever, brought on by exposure, compelled us to halt here the whole of the following day, and on the 13th we proceeded through Giritella, to visit the ruins at Pollinara. Here we remained for three days, as we were all suffering more or less from fever, and on the 17th we returned, passing through the village of Minnery, and encamped between the outlets of Gantalawe and Kowdella canals. These outlets were for the escape of the surplus water of the Minnery lake; the lower one, which is called the Mahawina, conveyed the water to the once enormous tank of Kowdella; the upper, or Agalawana, led the water to the Gantalawe or Kandelly tank.

We chose the latter as it was the principal work, and on the morning of the 18th, under the guidance of an intelligent weddah, we commenced tracing this canal, the course of which, except for the first three miles, has never before been explored. At the weddah village of Rotewewa we found the people most primitive. They have been settled here from a very remote period, and said that once they owned all the adjoining lands. This village and that of Potane, they told us, are presided over by a weddah chief, who bears the title of the Rangdoo, or the "Golden bow." Unfortunately for us, this chief was from home on a shooting expedition, and we had not an opportunity of making his acquaintance, but we saw his quiver, full of arrows, which he had left behind.

Leaving our tent and people here, we proceeded to inspect the great breach in the Kowdella tank, which we were informed was only two miles off; the distance, however, turned out to be at least six, the path lying through part of the bed of the tank, now a vast forest. The walk, fatiguing as it was, well repaid us, for nothing could have given us so good an idea of the immense size of the Kowdella tank as the view of this the principal breach in it. The Gal oya has breached the embankment of Kowdella, where the river had been dammed across, at a point where two natural hills approached its banks; these are not less than 90 feet above the present level of the water. The breadth of the breach cannot be less than 200 feet at the top; the bottom of the breach is now a large and deep pool of water, in which we saw several huge alligators. We had not time to go on to examine the stone bund, which has already been described by Mr. Bertolacci and Dr. Davy.†

We returned to Rotewewa for breakfast, and afterwards followed the canal for three miles further on, where the Gal oya has breached it. At about a quarter of a mile up the river, we found the ruins of a palace, said to have been built by Mahasen, which is now called Nena Morella Maligawe, and encamped in a plain adjoining it.

Having now ascertained that the course of the canal from Minnery to Gantalawe lay at a higher level than the Kowdella tank, and not through it, as supposed by Mr. Turnour,‡ and having found that the difficulties of proceeding along the bed of the canal were so great as to render it probable that cutting our way through the dense jungle would occupy more of our time than we could spare, we struck from this point on the 19th to the high road to Trincomalee, which we reached at Gal oya rest-house.

We continued along the high road towards Gantalawe, and came again upon the canal where it crosses the road near Kitoelouta, at the point noticed by Lieut. Atcheson.

That officer observes, "about four miles from the tank of Dantalawa or Kndalla the road crosses a canal from 20 to 30 feet broad, formed by an immense embankment thrown up on the lower side. This canal is said to be supplied by the waters of the Ambanganga, that river being dammed up and turned into this channel at Ellemra, feeding the tanks of Minnery and Kowdella in its course to Dantalawa." (See Ceylon Almanac for 1833, p. 281.)

The tradition of the origin of this canal was correctly given to Lieut. Atcheson; but he seems to have fallen into the same mistake as Mr. Turnour, in supposing that it passed through Kowdella tank in its way to Gantalawe.

We continued our journey to Kandelly, but found that there the tradition had become very faint and vague, in consequence of a Mahabar population having superseded the Singalese. The following morning we went to the tank, but as our time was too limited to admit of a lengthened search, and in the absence of native information to guide us, we could not ascertain with any degree of certainty the point at which the canal enters it. An old man, almost the only one who appeared to have ever heard of the canal, pointed out to us a sandy river, which, he said, he always understood was the point where the canal came in, and near it we thought we could trace the remains of an embankment.

\* See Note No. 3, at end of Report.

† See Ceylon Almanac for 1833, App. p. 275.

‡ See extract from Turnour, in Mr. Brooke's Journal, p. 57.

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We do not, however, regard our failure at this point as a matter of any importance, as the existence of a range of hills on the western side of the road, extending from the place at which the canal crosses it to the tank, renders it impossible that it could have led any where else than to Kandelly. We were informed by the villagers that an embankment exists, leading from Gantalawe tank to Indiriweve, a tank a short distance to the north.

We now returned to Gal oya, and determined to complete the link between Kondrowawe and Minnery, which we had lost by the misrepresentations of the people of the former place. We proceeded through Seegiri to Pécolom. To judge by its embankment, which is the largest we have seen, Pécolom must have been one of the most considerable tanks in this neighbourhood, inferior only to Minnery and Kowdella. The revetments were continued nearly to the top of its embankment, proving that its depth must have been very great. We ascertained that this tank was filled by the Kiri oya, a large stream, almost deserving the name of a river, which rises in Nuweregalla Kandy, in the north-east part of Matelle, and is divided from the Abanganga by the Kondrowawe hills. It flowed into Pécolom, and thence a part of its surplus water flowed through the *Maia horowe* or low level sluice, where it has broken the bund, to Minnery; and the remainder escaped through the *Goda horowe*, or high level sluice towards Kondrowawe, irrigating Meegnaswelle, Talacolepita, and other tracts of land, and eventually falling into the Ellehara canal. The *Goda horowe* still exists, and the water collected by the ruined embankment in wet weather flows down in a large stream now called the *Rudawige oya*, which, as we before mentioned, breached the canal embankment near Talacolepitiya.

From Pécolom we proceeded to Kondrowawe, a distance of about four miles, and having brought with us guides in whom we could place greater reliance than in our former ones, we commenced, on the 23d, to follow out the canal towards Minnery, which we had formerly been obliged to abandon. Having satisfied ourselves that the canal most probably did lead to Minnery, we started on the morning of the 23d, having sent our horses by the path to the village of Ikoolowadia, on the banks of that lake, and surveyed the canal in the village tank, which is separated from Minnery by its embankment only. The distance was five miles, and the canal was found to be much smaller and less perfect than any we had previously surveyed. The numerous breaches are to be attributed to the close proximity of the hills. The greater part of it is excavated instead of being embanked. Not far from the point where the canal enters Ikoolowawe, we found a stone breakwater dividing the stream.\* We followed the larger and lower branch, having gone along the other one for a short distance, and found it very indistinct and at a much higher level. We consider that this branch was simply for the escape of surplus water, lest the swollen stream of the canal should destroy the embankment of the tank, which is not far from the point at which it enters it.

We have thus satisfactorily ascertained that the water was conveyed from the Ambanganga near Ellehara to Kondrowawe, and thence into Minnery lake; that another canal led the water of that lake above the level of Kowdella to Gantalawe; thus verifying the native tradition, which we found consistent and unvarying throughout the whole line, until we reached the Malabar country, a distance of not less than 57 miles. Mr. Turnour, in his notes on canals and watercourses, in the Ceylon Almanac for 1833, remarks, that "under the most favourable circumstances, their length is double, and in some instances, four and five times the direct distance. Judging from these peculiarities, and giving a conjectural opinion in each instance of the nature of the country, a canal from Ellehara to Kandelly would exceed one hundred miles." Our survey shows that Mr. Turnour over-estimated the length of the canal.

We have also ascertained that Kowdella was filled by another canal from Minnery. That a canal connected Kondrowawe with Giralalle, we have no moral doubt, although our time was too limited to enable us to explore it. We had it cleared for six miles, and rode along it nearly two miles, and the traditions at Kondrowawe and the neighbourhood of Giralalle entirely coincide. It will be seen that there are still other canals connected with these, which we have not been able to explore; but we trust that the results of this expedition may afford a clue to the unravelling at some future time of the wonderful net-work of canals with which this part of the country was intersected.

"To have traced the line of the Ellehara canal through a mountainous country, alone evinces the knowledge and great exertions of the natives of a former date."†

Had Mr. Brooke been in possession of the information which we have since obtained, the foregoing remarks would have told with tenfold force, for not merely did the projectors of this canal display profound engineering skill in completing the work, but they formed and carried into effect the still more wonderful conception of uniting a portion of the waters of the Kiri oya, a river flowing on the opposite side of a high range of hills, with those of the Ambanganga at Kondrowawe, thence distributing them by minor canals through the country, and eventually reuniting the waters of the Kiri oya in the Minnery lake.

\* Vide drawing No. 4, figure 2.

† Brooke's Report, p. 61.



From our observations during the survey, we think it probable that the face of the country was at that time comparatively free from jungle, and that therefore the difficulty of taking accurate levels was not then nearly so great as it would be at present. It seems, however, probable, from the growth of the forest in the bed of the canal, that many centuries have elapsed since it fell into disrepair.

In contemplating the grand conception of the projectors of these works,—the economy of labour in availing themselves of the natural features of the country, and thus securing such great results by the construction of a single embankment,—the wisdom displayed in diverting a large river from its profitless course, and thus diffusing wealth and prosperity through a previously barren waste, and the forethought in turning to account the drainage of the vast expanse of country through which the canal passes,—cannot fail to excite wonder and admiration.

It is melancholy to regard the present altered condition of a country once brought by so much skill and labour to a state of perfect fertility. The Ambanganga now rolls on in its former unprofitable course. The streams, once checked and diverted into numberless tanks, flow through the breaches of the embankment, and are lost in the forest; and the whole country has become again a desolate and unhealthy jungle. Even at this, the most healthy season of the year, out of about 40 people who accompanied us, only seven have escaped fever and dysentery.

The population of the few remaining villages is annually decreasing. Between Ellehara and Kondrowawe we passed near five villages recently deserted, and many places were pointed out to us as the sites of villages abandoned within the last century. Some idea may be formed of the depopulated state of the country by the fact, that in a distance of 24 miles there is not one inhabited village, although we passed some fields which are still occasionally cultivated by the people of either Ellehara or Kondrowawe.

The excellent state of repair in which we found the embankment from Ellehara to Kondrowawe suggests to us the feasibility of restoring these works to their former state; but we do not think that any benefit would arise from the repair of the canal from Kondrowawe to Minnery, as the waste water would naturally fall over the spill-water into the Talawatura, and so into that lake, and the canal which we traced, can only have been formed in order to complete the line of navigation.

We are not in a position to speak with any degree of certainty as to the practicability or otherwise of repairing the line from Minnery to Gantalawe.

To revert to the first part of the work :—The dam across the Ambanganga could easily be rebuilt, and the repair of the fourteen important breaches which occur in the entire line of embankment present no serious engineering difficulties. A natural bed of rock having in every instance been selected for the spill-waters, their restoration would be comparatively easy. To effect these repairs, a large force of men would be necessary, as operations could only be carried on for about three and a half months in each year, owing to the floods during the rainy season. A great obstacle, too, would be found in the difficulty of obtaining a sufficient supply of water for the workmen.

It would be useless, however, to attempt these repairs, unless Government were prepared to import population, on an extensive scale, for the cultivation of the lands which would be made available by the vast supply of water which would then be at command. But this does not seem an insuperable obstacle, when we take into consideration the over-populated state of parts of the south of India, which is such that in one of the 20 provinces of the Madras presidency alone a few years back no less than 200,000 people died from famine in one year; and we believe we are correct in stating, that last year the Government was compelled to support 100,000 people to prevent them from meeting the same fate.

Before entering the idea of repairing these works, a trigonometrical survey of that part of the island would be indispensable, in order to ascertain what the effect of the accumulation of so large a body of water would be upon the adjacent country; and for this great natural facilities exist, in consequence of the numerous isolated hills with which the neighbourhood is studded. We have ascended several of these isolated points, and examined the country, with a view of ascertaining the feasibility of a thoroughly organized system of triangulation. (Note, No. 4.)

We originally planned this expedition for our own satisfaction; but finding that its results have so greatly exceeded our expectations, we have resolved to communicate them to Government, hoping that they may prove not devoid of interest.

ALEX. YOUNG ADAMS.  
JOHN F. CHURCHILL, C. E.  
J. BAILEY.

Sept. 19, 1855.

*Notes referred to in the foregoing Report.*

No. 1, page 316.

Vide Turnour's notes, published in the Ceylon Almanac 1833, on canals and water-courses :—"The ambition and vanity of that sovereign (Prahmana Rahou) made him change their names, giving them the appellations of the great rivers of Dumbadria." [the continent of India.] For example, the Gooda-sawara canal, from the river Gooda-sawara in India.

At a late meeting of the Society of Arts, Colonel Cotton, so well known as an advocate for the improvement of public works in India, coincided, perhaps with a bias in favour of his own opinion, "that our Indian possessions would be more benefited by canals for irrigation and navigation than by great trunk lines of railways. Without a proper supply of water

## CEYLON.

the people are always liable to famines, and the marvellous fertility of the country remains undeveloped.\* He "proposes to improve rivers, to clear out the old canals which have become choked up by long neglect. The region watered by the Godavery alone would produce more cotton than we want."

No. 2, page 214.

See Turnour's notes, *Almanac* for 1853, page 277.—"Before I make any extracts from that gentleman's interesting report, I give the following literal translation from the Mahawamsa, which contains an account of the principal canals in the reign of Praskrama, in the twelfth century, when they were brought to the highest state of perfection. The ambition and vanity of that sovereign made him change their names, giving them the appellations of the great rivers of Dandabadi, and calling the lake he formed after himself, 'The sea of Praskrama.' The king (Praskrama) formed the deep canal called the Mahara gunga, which flows from the Mahara outlet of the sea of Praskrama; from the same sea, the great canal, Herma Waters, flowing to the Maha-Magge-Wanna. From the outlet called Samanatala, the canal distinguished by the name of Nela Wapane; flowing from the outlet called the Koola Kara Golewama, the Salatawata canal; flowing from the outlet called Wanae under the name of Waltra Waters, the Waltra Waters great canal; from the southern outlet, the Toongha bala canal; flowing from the Mangala outlet, the Mangala Ganga canal; flowing from the eastern outlet, the Channa canal; flowing from the same sea to the Poornavardhana tank, the Sarawata canal; flowing westward of that (Sarawata) canal, the Walawata canal."

It is nowhere specifically stated in the historical records that any of these canals were navigable, but it is the general opinion of the natives, both of the learned and of those residing in the neighbourhood of these works, who have derived the information entirely from tradition, that the principal canals which received the names of rivers were navigable for canoes as far as Elifabara on the Ambargunga. The sea of Praskrama with its many outlets as yet unknown or at least unnoticed. Whenever it is discovered it will probably be found, like the bed of the Kalawa tank, a forest in no respect differing from the rest of the wilderness in which it is situated."

The survey annexed to this report will show, that one immense embankment extending for upwards of 34 miles forms a series of nine lagoons, connected with each other by nine canals. If Praskrama did change the names of existing canals (for if they had not existed in some degree how could he have changed their names, which, we have Mr. Turnour's authority for stating his ambition and vanity induced him to do), this alone would account for the difficulty of identifying the "sea," and seems to confirm the position which we have taken, that Praskrama had no only enlarged and improved upon Mahara's previous work.

Our inspection of the canal proves that not only was it navigable for canoes, but for vessels of considerable burden; and in all the villages through which we passed we found this tradition existing. The taranied tree, alluded to at page 11, is a remarkable proof of its existence at Elifabara, and the people who pointed out to us the ruins of Mahara's palace, near the Galaya, on the banks of the canal beyond Minnery, a distance of about six miles from Elifabara, described it as his halting place in his voyages up and down the canal.

No. 14, page 221.

Vide Turnour's Epitome of the History of Ceylon.

Mahara, A.D. 1775. *Rad* 288.—"He also formed 16 other great tanks, and cut the Talawattu Ella canal, by which means he formed 25,000 fields, which he dedicated to the Demasakka Wihara, whence the rice grounds got the name of Dantalawa (Dantalawa or Kandelly)." Also vide report, page 11.

We have to ascertain that a canal did exist from Kondroswa, which conveyed the waters of the Ambargunga into Minnery, whence they were led to Gallewadda. The water which now escapes through the branches of this canal as well as that which falls over the spill-way at Kondroswa meet and form a stream which now falls into Minnery. This bears the vernacular name of Talawadda. It is not fair to assume that this name is but a corruption of Talawattu Ella.

No. 4, page 523.

If the repairs were effected, a large body of water would flow over the Kondroswa spill-way into Minnery; this would find its outlet by the low level escape channel or Mahawamsa, and flow into Kowdella. Thence we think the water would escape by the large breach (Diplet, p. 11) into the Kowdella Aar, which is said to join the Mahawalliganga near the point at which the Vagil Aar strikes off. There is no doubt that this stream enters the Mahawalliganga, and should it prove that its junction is below the point at which the Vagil Aar strikes off, the addition of this large body of water to the stream might result in opening the navigation of the Mahawalliganga; an object which, in 1852, occupied the attention of Government. (Vide Brooke's Journal, p. 29.)

No. 5.

We annex a plan of the sluice of Topawewa, for it is more perfect in its details than almost any of the many ancient sluices we have examined.

As the plan shows, it is much dilapidated, and in need of repair, but its plan is very clearly discernible.

The use of the well, or *Wewela*, as it is called, has puzzled many people. Here we have the sluice gates quite distinct from it, whereas in some there are grooves for sluice gates within the well. It is probable the well served as an entrance to the sluice, for the purpose of clearing it, and removing roots, pieces of wood or other obstructions. It is true that a man might enter the sluice from the outside for that purpose; but without the well he would be in darkness; and it is only in the embankments of large tanks that the well is found. Besides, in the event of the sluice gates getting out of order, supplementary gates could be put to the sluice in the well, while they were being repaired.

The well at Topawewa is not a very large one of the kind.

## B.

## Report on the Kandelly Tank by Captain Sim, Royal Engineer.

(No. 36.)

Royal Engineer's Office, Kandy,

Sir,

22d April 1856.

I have the honour to acquaint you, that on the 20th June 1855 I addressed a report to his Excellency the Governor concerning the Kandelly tank, and its probable capabilities for the purposes of irrigation. The report was necessarily conjectural, as I was not in a position to obtain precise information, but having in February last had the honour of accompanying his Excellency to the spot, and since received his instructions to make a detailed investigation of the subject, I beg now to lay before you the opinion I have been enabled to form.

As, according to our regulations, it will be requisite for you to transmit a copy of this letter to Sir J. Burgoyne, the inspector general of fortifications, I trust I shall be excused if I advert more fully to the general question of the tanks than I should have done had I to address the Colonial Government alone.

Throughout the northern and eastern provinces of Ceylon are to be found very many of these tanks or artificial reservoirs of water formed by the construction of a dam or bund across the gorge of a valley, and fed by the drainage of the surrounding districts. Some, such as Minnery and Kandelly, are beautiful sheets of water, at times from 15 to 20 square miles each in area; others contain but little water; while the majority, broken through at the bund and thoroughly drained, appear as plains of grass in the midst of the forest.

The value of water so stored up in a tropical country is incalculable. That the ancient inhabitants of the island were aware of this it is only necessary to contemplate the remains of the great works they executed for the purpose. Without a supply of water

at the proper season the crop of paddy or rice fails, and famine ensues, followed by the utter abandonment of villages and districts. With the tanks in order, prosperity and no slight degree of civilization prevailed among the Singhalese; but with the means of irrigation and agriculture neglected, the country has become desolate and unhealthy, while the natives have gradually fallen into their present state of helplessness and degeneration.

In my letter of June, I alluded to the flourishing state of Tanjore, and the vast sum of half a million paid by Ceylon annually for grain, principally to that country. With an expenditure on works of irrigation of 4,000*l.* per annum for 50 years, that district has so prospered that the population has doubled, and the revenue risen from 300,000*l.* to 500,000*l.*, while the saleable value of the land is now equal to four millions. Had half the money spent on such works in Tanjore been spent in Ceylon instead, in keeping in repair those already existing here, this island would probably have exported, over and above its own wants, as much grain as it now depends on other countries to supply.

However fully recognized may be the importance of the tanks, it is not within reason to expect that the Government could at once plunge into any costly scheme for their restoration. Yet, to overlook them altogether, to cast aside all consideration of those that even now might be turned to profitable account, would be equally injudicious. An experiment on a small and inexpensive scale might surely first be tried before the subject is entirely rejected; if successful it could be repeated; if a failure, but little would be risked.

Of all the tanks Kandelly offers the most advantages for such an experiment. Presenting to view an area of about 15 square miles in the rainy season, and never less than three in the driest, it is enclosed by hills of moderate elevation covered with forest, a slope of grass extending from the border of trees to the edge of the water.

The artificial bund by which it is retained is a mile and a quarter in length, about 50 feet in height, with a base of from 150 to 200 feet. Its inner side is faced the whole way with loose boulders to protect the embankment from the action of the water. Two stone sluices or aqueducts at different sites and levels, each with two watercourses, separated from one another by a stone partition, are constructed underneath the bund, and the streams they supply, uniting at a short distance, flow for 12 miles into Tamblegam Bay, which is close to the harbour of Trincomalie. The high road to that port from Kandy runs by Kandelly, rendering the tank easily accessible; by Tamblegam Bay it is 21 miles, by the high road 25, from Trincomalie. With the exception of the sluices, the bund may be pronounced in a perfect state. The immense stones that formed the upper sluice have fallen in, nevertheless the water percolates through them, and affords an ample stream for the greater part of the year, but in the dry season it sinks below the level of the outlet.

The lower sluice is about 12 feet below the surface of the water, when the upper one ceases to run. It has never been uncovered, and on the whole may be said to be in order, excepting that part of the water escapes out of the side close to the lower end of the watercourse. The stream is always full, however, and the sluice no doubt will perform its part for many years to come.

There are two other sources of contribution to the main Tamblegam stream or river, one proceeding from the small tank of Windemsen, two miles to the north of Kandelly, and about three square miles in extent, which affords for more than half the year no inconsiderable supply, and the other from the spill-water or waste weir of Kandelly, whenever the water rises excessively in the height of the rainy season.

But the reason, above all, why Kandelly offers greater advantages than any other tank is, that whereas population is wanting in the vicinity of almost all, large paddy fields worked by a considerable number of natives are to be found on the banks of the Tamblegam river. The only experiment, therefore, needed is the improvement and extension of what now exists as a nucleus.

There are two settlements at present earning their maintenance by the help of the water of the tank; Kandelly village is close to the bank, and Tamblegam village is situated on the bay of that name. The former is but 25 ammunams or 50 acres in extent, with about 30 families, and is almost wholly private property. The latter is 2,500 ammunams or 5,000 acres, all cleared and ready for planting, with a rich soil returning fifteen-fold, and the population is between 300 and 400 families. More than one-tenth of the area is scarcely ever under cultivation at the same time. Yet with these fine fields close at hand Trincomalie has been known to be half starved at times for want of rice. On one occasion within the last two years, when there was a great deficiency in the town, the authorities proceeded out of necessity to seize by force all the grain to be found in the neighbouring villages, giving, however, ample remuneration to the owners.

The point to which I would beg particular attention is, that out of these 2,500 ammunams, 1,000 are declared by the wauia to be the property of the Crown. At one time or another they have all been cultivated, though now they are rarely touched. If offered for sale, I am assured the land would not fetch 15*s.* per acre, even if purchasers could be found to invest, the population being too scanty for an increase of cultivation. But I am persuaded, that if the Government would undertake to divide the area into allotments of two ammunams each, which is about the extent that one man and his family will be

CETLOW.

able to work, allow them to be held for the three succeeding years after the first (which should be rent-free) on the small tax of a tithe of the produce, and at the expiration of that period sell them on regular titles, with the right of pre-emption to the then occupants, no difficulty will be experienced in obtaining the necessary amount of population. Should it, however, be found that the people of these parts, reduced as they are to the extreme of poverty, are not in a position to avail themselves of such an offer on the part of Government, being without the means of purchasing buffaloes or implements of husbandry, or of providing themselves with food during the first year of occupation, I would respectfully suggest the proposition that advances of 1,350*l.* confined to 100 men or families might be made for these purposes, to be repaid to Government in four years, in the manner detailed in Appendix.

If this scheme were to answer, a second batch of 100 might be in like manner accommodated, till the whole 1,000 ammunams, sustaining 500 families, were under cultivation.

No outlay beyond the advances would be required, for the bund and sluices of the tank need no repair. Sufficient water flows at present from them for the irrigation of 1,250 ammunams, allowing, according to Colonel Cotton's estimate, 7,500 cubic yards for the irrigation of each acre, and taking the tank at its smallest extent of about three square miles, with an average available depth of six feet.

The only requirement is the clearing of the jungle over the sluices, and this should be done forthwith, whatever the future intentions of Government may be with regard to Kandally. Nothing but the gradual expansion of the roots of the trees, aided by the force of running water, could have availed to displace the huge stones of the sluice. Those which capped the lower ends of the watercourses are, from their dimensions, nearly six tons each in weight, one is split and the other thrown down.

Looking beyond the time when these Crown fields may be brought into cultivation, in the manner described, there is no reason why nearly the whole of the land bordering on the Tamblegam river should not ultimately be laid out, sold, and turned to similar account, to the extent of half a mile on each side, and for the whole distance from the tank to Tamblegam, constituting an area of between 3,000 and 4,000 ammunams. In the event, however, of Government considering it worth while, at any future period, to carry this idea into practice, it will be essential to husband the supply of water in the tank and regulate its discharge. Since more than treble the quantity would then be required, none should be permitted, as now, to run to waste in the wet season. But, for this purpose, new sluices would be necessary. The old sluices are defective, and to repair them would be expensive and troublesome in the extreme. The very removal or shifting of the enormous stones would be of itself a work of the severest labour and considerable time. I should, therefore, be disposed to recommend the adoption of new sites for the sluices, allowing, till their completion, those now in operation to perform what service they could. The coffer dams would involve less trouble in their construction, and instead of stone watercourses, it would be preferable to substitute large cast iron pipes of about three feet diameter. Such might be laid without difficulty, and the trees would not injure them. They should be furnished with sluice doors at each end, and a competent person should be appointed to have them in charge.

I cannot conclude this letter without stating that I was accompanied at Kandally and Tamblegam by Mr. Birch, without whose intelligent aid and knowledge of the country and language I should have been at a loss to pursue any inquiry into the subject of this report.

I have, &amp;c.

CHAS. SIM,

Capt. Royal Engineers.

The Commanding Royal Engineers,  
Colomba.

## APPENDIX.

*Advances to be made by Government.*

	£
Food for 100 families for one year at six ammunams each, being at the rate of 12 bushels for four people = 600 ammunams @ 1 <i>s.</i>	450
100 pairs of buffaloes at 6 <i>l.</i> per pair	600
500 ammunams of seed paddy @ 1 <i>s.</i>	150
Cost of laying out the allotments, implements, &c.	150
	<u>£1,350</u>

*Recoveries.*

	Amount:
First year—nothing	—
Second year—One-tenth of 50 ammunams	5
Buffaloe hire	3
Repayment of one-third grain advanced, with interest of 50 per cent., which is the custom of the country, say	3
	<u>8</u>
Third year	Do.
Fourth year	Do.
	<u>8</u>
	24 @ 1 <i>s.</i> = £12 x 100 = 1,200

By the fourth year Government would be repaid the grain advanced, as well as the cost of the buffaloes. The margin of 450*l.* will be ample to cover all contingencies, such as the death of buffaloes, deficiency of crop as estimated, &c.

*Probable income to settlers from two ammunams.*

First year	{ It is supposed the ammunam will produce 11 fold only, 2 ammunams will therefore return 15 ann. @ 15s.	-	-	-	-	-	£11 5 0
Second year	{ 2 ammunams will return Deduct for Government	50					
	for seed paddy next year	10					
		90	ammunams @ 15s.	-	-	-	15 0 0
Third year and Fourth year		Do.					Do.

## C.

*At a meeting held at the kutcherry, Trincomalee, on Monday, 25th February 1856.*

## Present:

W. Morris, esq.  
Rev. S. O. Glenie.  
Lieut.-Col. Tranchell.  
Lieut.-Col. Cochrane.  
Captain Maude, R.A.  
Captain Tranchell, C.R.R.  
Lieut.-Col. Reyne, C.R.R.  
Lieut. Fielding, C.R.R.  
Mr. Redlich.

Mr. De Vos.  
Mr. Colomb.  
Mr. Gibson.  
Mr. Buttery.  
Mr. Meerwald.  
Mr. Holgate.  
J. W. Birch, esq.  
E. H. Smedley, esq.  
W. Halliley, esq.

Proposed by Mr. Glenie.—Seconded by Mr. Tranchell.

I.—That this meeting, being satisfied that the burial ground of Trincomalee is Government property, is of opinion that it should be placed in charge of the Government agent, the commandant, and the colonial chaplain for the time being, in conformity with the suggestions of his Excellency the Governor, to be held in trust as a burial ground for the protestant inhabitants of the place, on the same footing as the burial ground on the Galle Face in Colombo is held.

Carried unanimously.

Proposed by Colonel Cochrane.—Seconded by Mr. Birch.

II.—That this meeting accepts with much thankfulness his Excellency the Governor's proposal, as conveyed to them by the Government agent, of permanently enclosing the burial ground with a substantial wall, or in such other way as may be considered expedient; but begs respectfully to record their opinion, that a wall would be most desirable, as more easily erected and less liable to injury than any other style of enclosure.

Carried unanimously.

Proposed by Captain Tranchell.—Seconded by Mr. Redlich.

III.—That this meeting pledge themselves to raise, by donations and subscriptions, a sufficient sum, to form a reserve fund, for the up-keep and improvement of the burial ground (not including, however, the salary of any sexton or official\*), which shall be placed at the disposal of the trustees, who shall deposit annually not less than two thirds of the amount thus raised in the savings' bank, for the up-keep of the enclosure only.

Carried unanimously.

Proposed by Colonel Reyne.—Seconded by Mr. Smedley.

IV.—That the three proposed trustees, with Colonel Cochrane and Mr. Gibson, be requested to wait on his Excellency the Governor, and, in conveying to him the above resolutions, express to his Excellency the respectful prayer of this meeting, that the work be commenced as soon as possible.

Carried unanimously.

(True copy.)

(Signed) W. MORRIS,  
Chairman.

Enclosure 7 in No. 35.

Encl. 7. in No. 35.

## SECOND MINUTE ON THE EASTERN PROVINCE.

I wish to lay before the Councils the results of the only tour of inspection that my health has permitted me to make during the present year.

The most important of these results have already been made public by the Minute on the Batticaloa Irrigation Works, which appeared in the Gazette of the 7th March. But there are other matters of no small interest to the community, upon which it is my duty to speak plainly, since nothing but a knowledge of the evil can render practicable those remedies which it is the duty of the Government and the Legislature to apply.

\* Such salaries will be paid by fees.

## CEYLON.

I left Kandy on the 2d of February, taking the route to Newera Ellia by Maturatte, which I had not previously seen. It is needless to describe a district so familiar to many, although no Governor has visited it since Sir Edward Barnes. The road from the Horragam oya to the Maha oya is due to the wise liberality of De Soysa, uoddiar, the fortunate purchaser, at the upset price of uncleared land, of a coffee estate, dating from the time of the Kandyan kings, and now producing 4,000*l.* a year. Had the Survey Department been properly organized, a property of this description could hardly have been alienated without bringing its full value into the treasury; nor can I understand how it was allowed to be so, since many of the earliest coffee plantations were supplied with cuttings from this very estate.

De Soysa's road has now become a public road, and the provincial committee is extending it from the Maha oya to the gap or pass which leads into the valley of Maturatte, and down to the small native bridge that crosses the Bilhool oya, about a mile and a half below the fort. The 500*l.* voted last session will go in aid of this work, and cannot be more usefully employed; for the ford below the fort, inconvenient at all times, is dangerous, if not impassable, during many months of the year; while the district is rising every day in importance, from the number of estates already opened, and the excellence of a large belt of unsold land, running parallel with Mr. Robertson's coffee plantation, the superior quality of which is admitted by the best judges, though the sale has been impeded hitherto by unsettled native claims. I understand those claims to be wholly untenable, chena cultivation having been abandoned for more than forty years; and though it is desirable that sufficient portions of jungle should be reserved for the use of the large native villages that border the valley, I feel satisfied that the Government agent may accomplish this, without excluding coffee from that portion of the forest which appears to be peculiarly adapted to its growth.

I know no part of the island in which the two great branches of Ceylon agriculture may be seen in such close juxtaposition as at Maturatte. The valley, extended by artificial terraces up every ravine down which water can be made to pass on its way to the river below, presents a vast expanse of green, reaching to the very crest of the surrounding hills; while, wherever paddy cultivation ceases, coffee cultivation begins. In the immediate vicinity of the villages there are gardens in which onions and potatoes grow luxuriantly; and I had the satisfaction of hearing the planters bear uniform testimony to the conduct of their Kandian neighbours, who appear to be a peaceable, thriving, and industrious race, where not contaminated by low country Singhalese—the outcasts, generally, of their native districts—or forced into brawls by coolies belonging to the estates. I was much struck myself by their manner and appearance;—the wonderful ingenuity with which they have turned the smallest supply of water to account,—their ready appreciation of the advantages which the district will derive from the opening out of the country,—and with the justice and simplicity of their views, under the novel circumstances in which they are placed. For Maturatte, instead of being one of the most secluded spots in the island, is rapidly becoming the centre of an important district. The transfer of the court from Newera Ellia to the fort, where I have authorized the erection of a small court house and bungalow,—the prospect of a handy road to Kandy, which must be steadily kept in view,—the establishment of a post office and a police station,—the bazaar, which is growing up on the site of the old fortifications,—the opening, consecutively, of twelve new estates, with every appearance of adding largely to that number, so soon as the surveyor-general is enabled to bring fresh land into the market,—and the progress already made in tracing the road into Ouwah, by the Elephant Plains, which will make this the shortest route to Kandy for the coffee from the Badulla and Oode-Pusilawa estates,—all these are circumstances that must materially influence the prospects of Maturatte, and ensure its rapid progress in cultivation and wealth.

No greater mistake can be committed than to suppose that in facilitating this progress the Government is consulting private, not public interests.

Public prosperity is but the result of the aggregate prosperity of all the great interests that compose society.

The planter does his part, by turning the jungle into cultivated land, and connecting his clearing with the main road of the district to which it belongs. But that main road is a public road; at least it becomes so, from the moment that the district contributes its quota to the commercial movement from which so large a portion of the revenue is derived. It may be difficult to define the precise limits of public and private responsibility. Men who want help from the Government must be ready to do their part in the work proposed. But the Government should also be liberal in its aid, for nothing can be clearer than the fact that in districts like Maturatte there are large Government interests, as well as native and planting interests, at stake.

The Crown has still a considerable amount of land to sell. That land will not be bought unless a fair supply of labour can be secured; and it is well ascertained that coolies will not engage themselves upon estates where they are obliged to carry coffee from any distance to Kandy, and to bring back the rice for their own consumption.

To sell, therefore, we must improve. Roads and bridges are as necessary as surveys to the profitable disposal of land. And my conviction is, that, for many years to come, in the present position of Ceylon, the most certain mode of increasing the revenue of the

island, is a judicious liberality in the use of the means which it has. The customs are the gauge of what is practicable and what is right. So long as their increase corresponds with the increasing expenditure, the Government is paid, indirectly, for every shilling it lays out.

With these views, I have urged upon the surveyor-general the immediate extension of his operations in the Maturatte district, with a view of dividing the land in the vicinity of the fort into small building lots, and of bringing into the market, as soon as possible, some of the more valuable portion of the coffee land above it. I have also made a small grant of 80*l*. for improving the communications with Newera Ellia, from whence the estates draw many of their supplies; and, so soon as the road from the Maha oya is brought down to the bridge over the Bilhool oya, I shall propose to substitute an iron lattice bridge, should those now on their way out to the colony be found to answer, for the small and inconvenient structure which, though repaired by the provincial committee, was originally due to the liberality of the father of the present koralle of Wellegiriya, aided by a Kandian priest.

#### ROAD FROM MATURATTE TO BADULLA.

From Maturatte I proceeded to Newera Ellia and Badulla. The works between these two places, to which the Legislative Council has appropriated 7,000*l*. in this and the ensuing year, had not at that time commenced, the pioneer detachment having only reached its lines the day before I passed. The road was indescribably bad, with the exception of two miles above and five below Wilson's Bungalow, which were partially repaired last year, and the six last miles into Badulla. It is not merely the want of metalling, but the extreme narrowness of the trace, bordering, as it does, for many miles, upon an almost precipitous descent, that makes this route difficult and even dangerous for wheel carriages. Another year or two of neglect would have left it no existence, except in the maps; and the Badulla planters would have been shut out from all share in the advantages which they ought to derive from the large expenditure on the Rambodde and Ganapulle road, which is now really superb. The work done since September 1855 upon the Rambodde pass reflects the highest credit upon Captain Wilkinson and Mr. Rehe, whose labours have transformed what was then an almost impassable track, into a highway which may challenge comparison with anything that is to be seen, not merely in India, but in England, although its maintenance will always be difficult and costly, from the long duration and violence of the rains.

I look forward to a similar change on the Badulla side, in the course of another twelvemonth. Mr. Hall has very properly, begun his work between Dickwelle and Ebanpittia, where the difficulties are greatest, and has already made considerable progress in widening the narrowest parts, by blasting rocks, and cutting away overhanging banks. The new bridge at Dickwelle will be completed in July, and promises to be a handsome and durable structure. It is not proposed to do anything to the road between Wilson's Bungalow and Newera Ellia during the present year, except some minor repairs, (filling up holes, &c.) which might as well be dispensed with, since nothing short of entire reconstruction will do any good, the difficulty of procuring gravel having led to a practice in past years, of using earth and kabook, which the first fall of rain turns into mud. The road, therefore, though passable in fine weather, is worse in bad than any road I know in Ceylon pretending to be a high road, excepting parts of that between Kurnegalle and the Maha oya, of which the planters in that district have long complained.

The Council will I feel sure be anxious to afford relief in both cases, so soon as sufficient strength can be brought to bear upon them by the Department of Public Works.

A large halting place for bandies, on entering the plain of Newera Ellia from the Badulla side, and another at the toll-bar on the Rambodde pass, have just been completed; and as nothing tends so much to damage the road as the constant standing of carts in the rainy season upon particular spots, it is my intention to proclaim this section of the road (from the 45th milestone to the 51st) under the ordinance of last session, as I understand that its wording admits of this construction.

#### ROUTE FROM BADULLA TO BATTICALOA.

From Badulla to the Batticaloa boundary, my route lay through Passera, Bibili, Nilgalle, and Pattepolle Aar, to the Namool oya, where the eastern province begins. All that nature can do to make a country attractive, by the most beautiful combinations of mountains, forests, rivers, fertile valleys, and rich grazing grounds upon the hills, is to be found scattered with a profuse hand over this space of about 70 miles, which comprises a portion of what is called the park. But with the exception of some paddy cultivation in the low grounds, and some attention to the roads, especially as we approached the Wellase boundary, which, considering the scantiness of the population, is highly creditable to the activity of Godegedera Ratanahatmeya, there was little to indicate the presence of man; nor have I any improvements to suggest, with the exception of certain tank repairs, not of a large or expensive kind, which the assistant government agent recommends.

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From Namool oya we proceeded to Condawattawaan, which, with the villoos of Ambare and Ericamam, may be regarded as the first link in that chain of irrigation works to examine which was my principal object in taking so unusual a route.

The nature and peculiarities of those works, the possibility of restoring them with advantage to the people and the Crown, by a very moderate outlay, the social and financial results that may be anticipated from this undertaking, will be found fully developed in the papers that I have directed to be laid upon the table with this minute. These comprise—

1st. Mr. Birch's report, accompanied by Mr. De Konig's survey of the district between Condawattawaan and the sea.

2nd. My despatch to Mr. Labouchere.

3rd. A report from the surveyor-general, to which I invite the particular attention of the council.

4th. Minute of February 27th.

5th. Mr. Labouchere's reply to my despatch.

From these it results, that at a cost not exceeding 7,000*l.* 50,000 acres of land may be brought into cultivation, upon terms, which, after repeated interviews with the leading persons in the district, I may confidently say are esteemed liberal, yet which, if successfully carried out, will change the face of the country in the course of a few years, and create a large export trade in rice from Batticaloa.

I took the greatest pains to ascertain the sentiments of the population, both as to the practicability of the plan and the equitableness of the proposed conditions.

The objects of the Government were stated by interpreters to large assemblages of people at Karenkottetive, Naypatemone, and Batticaloa. Explanations were asked for upon several points, and objections raised on some; but the result was, that when the matter was fully understood there was not a dissentient voice. It was admitted that if land were placed within the reach of all classes upon such terms, and a supply of water secured, the plan for chena cultivation, the most wasteful and extravagant of all cultivations, especially in the eastern province, where whole forests have been swept away by it, would cease, and men would have no excuse for passing their days in a perpetual struggle to defraud the Crown.

This is of itself no mean advantage. It will substitute regular industry for the lawless pursuits into which whole districts have been forced by the system that has prevailed during the last 25 years; and those who live to see the jungles between Ericamam tank and Karenkottetive converted into paddy fields by the measures now proposed will see also an orderly, peaceful population, with settled habits, and fixed abodes, respecting the laws that secure the property which they have been allowed to acquire.

Karenkottetive, the principal village of the Akra Puttoo, stands at the commencement of that magnificent range of paddy lands, nearly 15,000 acres in extent, which has survived the destruction of the old irrigation works, though the crops are exposed to many risks from the two extremes of drought and inundations against which the Dutch had successfully guarded them. These 15,000 acres are not contiguous. They comprise the whole of the paddy cultivation between Karenkottetive, where there are 1,500 acres in one piece, and Batticaloa. But though separated by tracks of sand and cocoa-nut, all derive their supply of water directly or indirectly from the same source, the Pattipolle river, and all will share in the benefits of a proper regulation and distribution of this supply.

Between Karenkottetive and Naypatemone, the southern extremity of the Batticaloa lake, we passed through the cocoa-nut estates under charge of Mr. O'Grady. Further north between Ondatchy Madam and Karan Colom are those of Mr. Carey; and the estates of Mr. Munro and Colonel Spencer, under the charge of Mr. Robertson, lie 20 miles more to the north again, between Eroar and Ballechena.

Mr. Gordon Cunningham's estates are near Karan Colom. We saw, therefore, a fair proportion of the 4,000 acres said to be planted with cocoa-nuts in the Batticaloa district. Generally speaking, I do not think them equal to the Jaffna plantations, or comparable to those about Natande and Madampe in the north-western province. But none of the estates are yet in full bearing, having only been planted between 7 and 9 years. About 70,000 nuts which are bought by the Moormen at from 3*l.* to 4*l.* per 1,000, was the last year's crop at Caretive; but this may be expected to increase annually as the trees gain in age and strength.

Mr. Carey's estates are models of neatness. The nursery for the young plants is like a garden. The clearing and planting cost 5*l.* an acre, which may eventually be reduced to 4*l.* This includes the wells to be sunk, which are numerous, as the young plants require watering every day for the first year. The water is found at from 5 to 8 feet deep. The system pursued by the gentlemen named appears to vary little. They all manure highly. None have tried salt, and do not attach much importance to it as a manure. But this may perhaps be owing to the fact that the soil itself is strongly impregnated with saline particles, especially that which is dug in the marshes near the estates, and spread over the roots of the trees.

It will be necessary to make some provision in next year's estimates for improving the road between Karenkottetive and Naypatemone, where the water carriage begins. The lake is the real road for the upper part of the Batticaloa district, but the large sums



invested in the coconut plantations to the south fairly entitle them to an available communication with Naypatemone. No metalling is required, and the expense for the fifteen miles will not be large.

Nothing but the habitual misapplication of the funds and labour placed at the disposal of the local Government by the road ordinance can account for the continuance of this and many other grievances, of which the innumerable petitions presented to me complained. The whole system appears to have been characterized by a total absence of plan on the part of the Government, and a gross abuse of trust on that of many of its native officers. I am unwilling to go further, or to suppose that there can have been connivance at the frauds which have been notoriously committed. But it cannot be denied that the general relaxation of discipline, the absence of any attempt at personal superintendence, and the blind reliance placed in most unworthy subordinates by the late assistant government agent, have had a very unfortunate influence upon the interests of the Crown in the eastern province, and will require a firm and vigorous hand to neutralize their effects.

The commutation system under which the district of Batticaloa is now placed, and which there is no possibility of altering until 1860, can only be accounted for by gross incapacity or unblushing favoritism. Ignorance of the localities, of the extent of land under cultivation, of the ratio of increase in the different crops, of everything, in short, that it is an agent's business to look to personally, because it is the interest of all whom he consults to deceive him if they can, for the benefit of their own families and friends, can alone account for the almost total sacrifice of the public revenue during the last ten years, in the course of which a district, the title of which is worth annually upon a moderate computation, as shown in the subjoined extract from Mr. Morphew's Report, £507*l.*, has only yielded 1,060*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.*

There will, therefore, be a loss to the revenue in ten years, under this head alone, of 30,000*l.*, while, as the climax of absurdity, 20 per cent. abatement money is deducted for prompt payment from the miserable pittance left.

It would be unfair, however, to throw the whole blame of these arrangements upon the local Government. The general Government must bear its share. No doubt it has relied too much upon the representations made to it by the local authorities, but it has given them little aid. The eastern province has had no part in the improvements that have taken place during the last twenty years everywhere else. Its communications are just what nature made them, and few have ventured to face the difficulties which they present. Batticaloa and Trincomalee have been occasionally visited, because they may be reached by sea; but nobody in authority has traversed the country between Condamantewuan and the coast, or followed the coast road from Pulliantive to Trincomalee. Government agents and assistant agents were left entirely to themselves, without the check of publicity or the stimulus of occasional approbation. If they did well, no one praised them, if ill, no one blamed. They may have had the best intentions, but when novelty wore off, or health failed, there was little motive for exertion, and things were left to take their own course. The cutcherries contain no maps or statistical data of any kind. A survey was unheard of. And as every year increased a confusion which it was the interest of so many to promote, it required not merely a change of persons, but perhaps the very excess of those abuses that recent inquiries have exposed, to open the eyes of Government to the fact, that it was robbed with impunity, throughout an entire province, with a perfect observance of official forms.

The first circumstance that threw light upon this state of things was Mr. Braybrooke's inquiry into the timber frauds, ordered by Mr. MacCarthy when Lieutenant Governor. It is unnecessary for me to discuss the results of this, as they have been affirmed by judicial decisions, which place the existence of a vast system of swindling, in which headmen of all ranks took part, beyond the possibility of doubt. Even now it is very difficult to instil any idea of fair dealing into the minds of persons engaged in this trade; for I received last week a petition from a man whose timber had been recently forfeited, complaining of the injustice of the seizure, while the report of the government agent shows that he and his partners cut 35,000 running feet of timber, or nearly 218 feet to each tree, under licences allowing them to cut "60 logs, each log to be divided into 8 "pieces of 3 cubits each."

So it has been with the road ordinance, under which 1,200*l.* a year have been muddled away,—I can use no other term,—since 1845 without a mile of decent road to show for it, except the drive round the esplanade in Pulliantive. So it is with the salt revenue; the arrack rent; the customs; the post office. From not one of these departments do the Government receipts bear any sort of proportion to the known consumption of the population. Indeed, the government agent states distinctly in a confidential report which I received shortly before my visit to Batticaloa, that at least five sixths of the salt used in that district are smuggled; that smuggled goods are frequently found concealed upon the coast; that the arrack rent remains stationary at about 520*l.*, notwithstanding an obviously increasing demand; so that it is difficult to estimate the loss sustained annually by the revenue, without the slightest advantage to the population at large.

Here, however, the General Government must accept its share of the blame. There is not a salt-store south of Pulliantive, or a custom-house between Pulliantive and Hambantotte, or the smallest attempt at "surveillance" upon the coast, where vessels anchor

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wherever they please, and take in timber, or land goods, without the least risk of detection.

I am informed by persons worthy of credit, that the magnificent forests between the Yallo river and Karenkottetive, where the populous portion of the Batticaloa district begins, have been levelled with the ground; that every tree within reach of the streams communicating with Arregan bay has been cut down and shipped, without licence or payment, or record of any kind. I am assured that it is thirty-six years since an assistant agent, or any person claiming to represent the Government, visited this part of the district; and I only know of three white men who have been there within the last ten years, one of whom told me that he saw many acres of ground piled up with roughly-hewn logs ready for exportation, of which the Government knew nothing, and a flotilla of native craft waiting to take them on board in Arregan bay.

It is my intention to propose, in the revision of the establishments, a provision for a custom-house at this point, and to make the officer stationed there act as an inspector of timber and salt, with powers as a police magistrate. I have also sanctioned, upon the recommendation of the government agent, the immediate establishment of a salt depôt at Karenkottetive; and I am in hopes that these measures, coupled with the knowledge that a government steamer will visit the coast periodically, may have the effect of checking the illicit trade that is springing up, not merely by sea but with the neighbouring provinces of Ouvah and Bintenne.

I have also authorized the district judge to hold a court once a month as police magistrate at Karenkottetive, which is thirty miles south of Batticaloa or Nindoor; thus extending to that populous district the principle which has been successfully applied at Pusilawa and Nawellepittia. And I have granted commissions as justices of the peace to Messrs. O'Grady, Carey, and Robertson.

With regard to the Department of Public Works, little good can be done without a change at the head of it. The gentleman now in charge, Mr. Gray, though zealous and well-intentioned, is the first to admit his unfitness for the post which he occupies. Bred in the customs, and displaced upon grounds which Sir George Anderson and the Executive Council pronounced subsequently to be unsupported by evidence, he was sent to Batticaloa as assistant to the commissioner of public works, without the slightest previous training, and he found there no means of instructing himself in his new duties. No man can feel this more acutely than Mr. Gray, or express it more candidly; and as in so remote a district every public work suffers from the want of a competent head, I shall feel it to be my duty to remove Mr. Gray, the moment that I can find employment for him better suited to his abilities.

Much good may be done by placing at Batticaloa a practical man of some experience. The works to be executed are not many or large, but they require a person competent to select the best line of road through a not very difficult country, and to see that what is done is done properly. The attempt of the old provincial road committee to carry a road parallel with the luke along the sea-shore, when half a mile inland there is a succession of Moorish and Tamil villages with a population of 60,000 souls, the communications between which are the only thing of importance in the district, all the goods traffic being conducted by water, is one of those incomprehensible mistakes that no reflection can account for.

The people are not only willing but most anxious to see the road carried through their villages, as a proof of which they spontaneously moved the whole of the fences surrounding their compounds at the time of my visit, and thus opened a broad and straight line of road for upwards of 15 miles, bordered by trees, and requiring nothing but an occasional bridge for foot passengers, or a drain to carry off superabundant water, to make it as convenient as it is picturesque and useful even in its present state. I never met anywhere with greater loyalty and good feeling than were evinced throughout this densely populated district; and I sincerely hope that the visit of a Governor may be marked in this instance by some of those practical benefits which the inhabitants fondly anticipated.

I have endeavoured to point out here the advantages that the community would derive from a better application of its resources; and though amongst the petitions received many contained unreasonable and impracticable requests, I had the gratification of finding that wherever a hope was held out that the general interest should be the first thing considered, that land should be made accessible upon fair terms, the ordinance money properly laid out, the timber trade re-opened upon a better system, and a freer scope given to the undoubted energies of the people, it was admitted that such a change would be infinitely preferable to penultation and jobs, by which a few men profited at the expense of the community.

So soon as a proper head can be found for the Public Works Department in Batticaloa, there are many useful things that may be done at a small expense, and that will be included in the estimates for 1858. The assistant agent's house is falling to pieces from damp, which admits of no remedy, the fault being in the foundations; and the cutcherry is as bad as that of Trincomalie when I first saw it.\* The building used as the episco-

\* Vide Minute of last year, upon the Eastern Province.

palian church was originally a salt store, and is in all respects unsuited to its present purpose. The district courthouse and the custom-house are in most inconvenient juxtaposition, the first having no separate room for the clerks, and the largest portion of the last being filled with the salt removed from the church. The intervening space is filled by a noisy crowd constantly interrupting the transaction of business.

I have authorized the transfer of the assistant agent's house to what was formerly the commandant's residence in the fort, but has been used latterly as a rest-house; and as the buildings connected with the fort form a square, and are in a very tolerable state of preservation, with materials in abundance for repairs and alterations, I propose to concentrate there the whole of the Government establishments. One wing will serve as a cutcherry. There is an excellent store ready made on one side of the gate, which may be used for the civil engineer's department; and a salt store of similar dimensions may be built on the other with the 200*l.* voted last session.

I propose, further, to restore the old Dutch church that occupies the wing opposite the intended cutcherry, giving up the building on the esplanade for other public purposes; and the salt being removed from the custom-house, room enough may be found to give to the district court the accommodation which it requires, and to make separate entrances to the two buildings.

The present assistant agent's house, which is of old Dutch build, will help to furnish materials for a small rest-house, which is much wanted; and a residence for the district judge, for which the Government will receive rent, may be built either upon that site or upon the site of the present cutcherry. I have directed estimates to be prepared for these changes, and I believe that they will be found to combine economy with the most convenient arrangement for the public service.

#### BATTICALOA TO TRINCOMALIE.

I have nothing to suggest in the way of improvement between Batticaloa and Trincomalie. There is no population to profit by the outlay of public money, and without a very large outlay nothing useful could be done. A time may come when the introduction of cotton cultivation into these vast plains, extending over 100 miles, with soil and climate said to be favourable to the growth of the cotton plant, may call for bridges over rivers, which are now only to be crossed with difficulty and risk. But this will not be in my time. Nature for some years will be left to herself, and the few travellers who venture upon this route must endeavour to choose, as we did, the season when the waters have subsided sufficiently to make the ground safe for horses, while the plains are not yet parched and arid with drought.

#### TRINCOMALIE.

I had the pleasure of leaving Trincomalie upon this occasion without being called upon for a single supplementary vote, except an advance of 300*l.* to provide timber for roofing in the new military hospital next year, should this work receive the sanction of the Legislative Council. All the works sanctioned last year have been completed in a manner that does the utmost credit to Captain Philpotts, who has combined the duties of military engineer with the charge of the civil Department of Public Works.

The cemetery is now an ornament, instead of a disgrace, to the town; and the trust is constituted which is to take the responsibility of all future repairs.

The new cutcherry has been completed within the estimate, and I have seen no better work done in Ceylon, notwithstanding the want of assistance with which Captain Philpotts had to contend,—for he had not even a foreman of works under him,—and the scarcity of skilled labour. The building will afford most comfortable accommodation to the whole cutcherry establishment; and I directed a small balance, which remained unexpended upon the vote, to be laid out upon the godowns, which may then be occupied by the cutcherry peons.

The government agent proposes to transfer the site and buildings of the old cutcherry to the Civil Engineer's Department, as some of them will be available as stores. Part of the ground will be set apart for saw-pits, which are much required, and the rest used as a depot for commissariat timber, and for timber brought to the cutcherry to be stamped.

The rifle lines (also sanctioned last year) are completed in a manner that was entirely satisfactory to the military authorities as well as to me.

The military hospital, for which 2,000*l.* were voted in 1852 and 1853, and on which 975*l.* had been spent when the work was suspended by Major-General Bainbrigge, who thought the site ill-chosen, has been the subject of much discussion among medical men. All seem agreed that the position of the hospital is good,—that too much ventilation for fever patients is worse than none,—and that, not only was there no sufficient reason for abandoning the work, but that its completion will be an act of justice to the troops, who are now most inadequately provided with medical comforts.

Upon these grounds, which were fully gone into with the major-general and the medical officers of the garrison, I sanctioned the purchase of timber to the amount of 300*l.* for the roof, without which the work could not have been resumed next year, and a vote will be proposed for the completion of the building in the estimates.

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The house of the district judge, about which there was some difference of opinion last session, again occupied my attention, Captain Philpotts having stated that it was impossible to put it into an habitable state for the 500*l.* voted (upon my own recommendation), and the surveyor-general, after examining the ground, having entirely concurred in this opinion. I was induced, under these circumstances, to sanction an additional outlay of 200*l.* upon the work, recollecting that the Government will receive a rent of 40*l.* a-year for a house which now produces nothing, and which would let for considerably more if properly supplied with water, which is now brought by coolies from the bottom of the hill to which the building owes the beauty of its situation.

I also found it necessary to sanction the appointment of a clerk of the works, capable of superintending masons and carpenters in their ordinary duties, as a necessary part of the civil engineer's establishment; and to raise the pay of the military clerk of the works, Mr.                   , from 2*s.* 6*d.* a day to 3*s.* 6*d.*, without which the Government could not have expected to retain his valuable services.

The repair of the government agent's house, which was provided for in this year's estimates, had not commenced at the time of my visit.

The sub-committee of the Legislative Council, in its report upon the surplus fund ordinance, expressed some doubt respecting the issue of the colonization scheme at Kandelly. I consequently gave directions that no money should be expended under that vote, without a full statement being made to me previously of the steps to be taken, and of the probability of their succeeding. And finding both from Mr. Morris and Mr. Cairns, that although the terms offered by the Government were admitted to be most liberal, people were deterred from accepting them by the fact that they were already in possession of more land and water than they were able to turn to account, from the scarcity of labour, while there was apparently little chance of obtaining a supply of new settlers from the coast of India or from Juffna, I directed all proceedings to be suspended, so that the 1,000*l.* voted for Kandelly may be regarded as merging anew in the available resources of the colony.

#### TRINCOMALIE AND KANDY ROAD.

The questions connected with this road are many, and not easy of solution. In its present state it may be regarded as nearly useless for the purposes of communication. If much be done before it is wanted the road cannot be kept in repair without a large annual outlay; if nothing be done until wanted, it will take three years to effect the repairs that will be required, to make it of use.

At the present moment there are sixteen miles of excellent road (to Matelle) and fourteen (from Palamputa to Trincomalie) that are passable for wheel carriages. The 1,500*l.* voted last session will improve the worst parts of the road between Matelle, Nalande, and Dambool; but from Dambool to Palamputa the trace alone is preserved. The waters have worn deep gullies across the road, and in many parts follow it, as the most convenient bed, for miles together.

All the larger streams want bridging; and at Palamputa, Aloot oya, Gal oya, Dambool oya, and Nulande oya, the communication is often stopped for several days together in the rainy season.

The state of the rest-houses is also most disgraceful, and bears evident marks of that neglect which has characterised every branch of the public service in the eastern province. The whole of these useful and necessary buildings between Kandelly and Dambool are in ruins, from a miserable economy in thatch; the want of which has let the water soak into the walls, which, being of earth, have fallen in bodily, so that it forms an exception to the rule to find a rest-house with two walls out of the four standing.

That at Aloot oya, twelve miles from Kandelly, was built by contract eighteen months ago, and taken over, apparently, without proper examination, for the timbers are nothing but jungle sticks, not even squared; the walls are a shapeless mass of earth, and not one particle of the materials will be available. At Gal oya, where the rest-house is without a roof, the work was better done originally; much of the timber is still sound, and might be used for the new building.

At Habborenne, where 10*l.* spent in thatch two years ago would have saved the building, the state of things is nearly as bad; and it was impossible to find shelter of any kind from the heavy rain that came on soon after our arrival.

It is obvious that there is no remedy for this state of things so long as the rest-houses are left in the hands of the provincial committee, in a district where there are neither funds, labour, nor population.

The ordnance-money must be expended within twenty miles of the place where it is collected, and there are not half as many families within that distance of the three places that I have indicated, yet the accommodation to the public is indispensable, and travellers upon the Trincomalie road, though few and far between, have a right to hope that their interests will not be entirely overlooked by the Government.

I have therefore sanctioned an outlay of 313*l.* 10*s.* for the repair of the rest-houses at Habborenne and Aloot oya; and I propose, if the Council should think proper to comply with a similar request made by the government agent of the central province for the repair of the rest-house at Dambool, which is also in a bad state, to place the whole of those buildings under the care of the Department of Public Works, with orders to provide

for their maintenance, by making repairs when required. On the other hand, I recommend the establishment of a tariff for the rest-houses, bearing some proportion to the value of the accommodation given; and the abolition of all those privileges which are now claimed by official and military travellers. Let every man who uses a rest-house pay, from the Governor downwards; and no man who knows what it is to find shelter in the jungle, at fixed distances, for himself and his horse and his servants, especially in rainy weather, will grudge a reasonable return for so great a blessing.

I have directed the government agents for the central and eastern provinces to recommend a proper scale of charges; and though, until the traffic increases, it would only lead to disappointment to promise supplies of food, other than of the commonest description, yet the rest-house keepers should be directed to make arrangements for providing rice and fowls when wanted, as these may be found in the poorest localities.

I have now stated, I fear at too great length, my views respecting the eastern province. Great faults have been committed; there is much of past neglect to repair, as a preliminary to the good that we may hope to see done. The first step towards both is to introduce greater accuracy, as well as greater vigour, into the Local Government; to give the people fair play, while we enforce the rights of the Crown; and to ensure a proper application of the means at our disposal.

The division of the duties of the judicial and revenue departments in the Batticaloa district was a first step in this direction; but, in addition to this, I now recommend:—

1.—A survey of the whole of the paddy lands, with a view to form a proper estimate of their value before the commutation of 1860.

2.—The restoration of the irrigation works, with the prospect, ultimately, of bringing 50,000 acres of waste land into cultivation.

3.—A proper application of the road ordinance, under competent supervision, which the present government agent has already introduced.

4.—A revision of the system under which the timber trade is now conducted, coupled with the introduction of a custom-house, a timber inspector, and a salt depôt, at Armann bay.

5.—A more frequent communication by steam with the seat of Government, connected, as I trust that this measure will be, with an improved administration of justice; as the Supreme Court will then be enabled to hold a session once a year at Batticaloa and Trincomalee, instead of sending all cases of a serious nature to be tried at the farther extremity of the island.

6.—A fair revision of the salaries of the government subordinates, which were fixed originally upon a scale based upon prices that have long ceased to exist, and having little reference to the duties to be performed. It is not to be denied that the consequences of this short-sighted economy are to be traced in many of the abuses that I have described, and that the best mode of securing honesty in a Government office is to make the office worth holding by honest men.

All these things bear directly upon the welfare of an energetic and industrious population. Coupled with the minor changes that I have pointed out, they will materially improve its position; while the increase in the revenue in the next five years will amply repay the public for the outlay. All that I propose to do will cost less than half the amount sacrificed by the last commutation, without benefit to any one, for there is not the least reason why the land owners of Batticaloa should not pay their title to the Crown, as well as the land owners of the central and western provinces, or why the salt revenue should cease to exist, practically, in a particular province, when it is evident that without its regular enforcement in all the work of improvement must stand still, and the progress of the colony be arrested.

What is wanted is the equivalent; a proper system carried out in a proper spirit; good regulations in practice as well as upon paper. The people must be enabled to point to the tangible advantages which they derive from the change of system, and then, but not till then, the change will be popular.

For this the Government must rely upon the vigour and ability of its local representatives; and I acknowledge with pleasure the services rendered during the last 15 months by the present government agent, Mr. Morris, who has been indefatigable in his exertions, and has already acquired an intimate knowledge of his province.

I have had the satisfaction of receiving from the Secretary of State a full approval of the irrigation scheme at Batticaloa; and I am indebted to the kindness of the military authorities for the means of carrying it into immediate execution, as they have placed the valuable services of Captain Phillips at my disposal. That officer is now in charge of the works, and has fixed his residence at Ericavann.

It will be impossible to prepare estimates, upon the accuracy of which I can rely, before the close of the present year; but the advances required will be provided from the irrigation vote, 2,000*l.* of which will probably be sufficient for the expenditure of 1857.

H. G. WARD.

CEYLON.

Encl. 8 in No. 35.

Enclosure 8 in No. 35.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Address of his Excellency Sir HENRY GEORGE WARD, K.G.C.M.G., on opening the Session of the Legislative Council.—July 30th, 1856.

Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,

It is very gratifying to me to meet you under circumstances that enable me to congratulate the colony upon the satisfactory state of the revenue, the healthy condition of the producing interests, the steady increase of trade, and the active prosecution of works intended to develop this growing prosperity.

The early shipment of the coffee crop of the present season is mainly due to the improvements that have taken place during the last two years in the means of internal communication; and I need not assure you that their extension and maintenance will receive my constant attention.

The financial statement prepared by the acting auditor-general which I have directed to be laid upon your table, shows that the revenue of 1855 exceeded that of 1854 by 68,231*l.*; that the excess of revenue over expenditure in the year, notwithstanding a large supplementary estimate, amounted to 70,663*l.*; the expenditure having been 405,609*l.*, while the revenue was 476,273*l.*; and that this surplus, added to the balances of several preceding years, during which the financial position of the colony imposed the necessity of a rigid economy upon my predecessors, left at the beginning of the present year a balance of 218,477*l.* 19*s.* 11*d.* in favour of the Government.

Deducting from this 93,521*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.*, which may be considered as unavailable, if not absolutely irrecoverable, out of a sum of 104,746*l.*, which appears in the auditor's balance sheet as the amount of "outstanding revenue debts," you will find that after paying off the whole of the treasury notes in the cutcherries or in the hands of the public there was, on the 1st of January 1856, a net surplus of 124,956*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.* available for the service of the colony, in addition to the ordinary revenue of the year, the prospects of which are highly encouraging.

For, by a second statement which has been completed by the auditor-general up to the 30th June, it appears, that notwithstanding an increased expenditure of nearly 16,000*l.* during the first six months of the present year, 5,790*l.* of which have been laid out on public works and buildings, the revenue of the half year exceeds the expenditure by 33,590*l.*, and the estimated revenue by 32,348*l.*

As compared with the first half of 1855, there is a decrease of 5,318*l.*; but for this the receipts from the pearl fishery in that year fully account, since they amounted to 10,877*l.*, or more than double the present decrease. In the customs there has been an increase of 4,422*l.*; in land sales of 6,459*l.*; and the colony can hardly desire a better proof that in fostering with a liberal hand whatever tends to increase its trade, to facilitate the acquisition of land by all classes of the population, and to throw open the communications between the different provinces, it is in fact consulting its own best interests. The proper limit to works of this description, in the present state of Ceylon, should be the amount of means at your disposal in money and superintendence. Without the last, the money will be thrown away, for it is useless to attempt to do a larger amount of work than you have the certainty of seeing well executed.

I have much pleasure in acquainting you that it appears, by a recent survey of the pearl banks, that another fishery may be reckoned upon in March 1857, and a third in 1859; so that there is reason to hope that this branch of the revenue may now be considered as a biennial, if not an annual, addition to our resources.

With these prospects the colonial secretary will, I hope, feel himself justified in taking a larger estimate of the revenue for 1857 than he could have done hitherto, with prudence or safety, and in proposing to you to regulate the expenditure accordingly. The estimates are in a state of forwardness, and will shortly be submitted to you.

In one department a deficit must be provided for—the post office—as, in compliance with the wish universally expressed last year, I have, with the concurrence of the Executive Council, determined to propose to you the introduction of an uniform system of penny postage upon letters not exceeding half an ounce in weight. The loss upon the postal revenue, which cannot be less than 3,000*l.*, must be looked upon as the price of a boon to the community fraught with moral and social advantages, for I cannot anticipate that in the peculiar circumstances of Ceylon the increase in the correspondence is likely soon to make up for the pecuniary sacrifice.

I have now enjoyed the inestimable advantage of visiting, personally, a large portion of the island.

I have directed my minutes upon the northern and eastern provinces, as well as a minute upon the Badulla roads, to be laid upon your table.

They will show, whatever the value of my experience may be, I have not passed in idleness the time that has elapsed since the last meeting of the Legislative Council; and in our future deliberations upon matters connected with those provinces, as well as with the central province, a great part of which is now familiarly known to me, I shall hope that my opinion may be of more value than it could have possessed six months ago.

I have not failed to call the attention of Her Majesty's Government to the fact that the large balance now lying in the treasury vault is at present wholly unproductive.

But though proposals for its investment at interest have been made, I have received none, as yet, that could be deemed perfectly satisfactory.

I have suggested to the Secretary of State the propriety of employing a portion of this balance, not exceeding 25,000*l.* or 30,000*l.*, in works of an useful public character, which could not be included in the ordinary estimates without absorbing too large a proportion of the revenue.

Should this recommendation meet with your concurrence, it is my intention to propose to you in the course of the session:—

1st.—A vote of 4,000*l.* for establishing an electric telegraph between Colombo and Galle—an object in which the trade of the island is deeply interested. The Colonial Secretary will communicate to you papers showing why the Government has deemed it inexpedient to provide for the extension of the line to the northern province, upon the terms now proposed by the Government of India.

2ndly.—A vote of 10,000*l.* for the purchase of a screw steamer, combining sufficient tonnage for the carriage of goods with such a draught of water as will enable her to pass through the Paumotu channel.

By my correspondence with the Secretary of State, you will perceive, that in the opinion of Captain Higgin, the master attendant at Colombo, the steamer, in either monsoon, will be enabled to perform half her passage under sail; while the advantage of a regular monthly communication with the principal ports upon the coast will be invaluable, for the conveyance of passengers, goods, troops, military stores, and remittances in specie.

I believe that the steamer, if properly managed, will pay, as a commercial speculation; and I propose that it should be managed as such, without reference to the movements of civil or military functionaries, who if they use the steamer must do so in conformity with the general regulations. I have not ventured to anticipate your decision upon a point involving so considerable an outlay of public money, but have simply prepared the way for it, by securing the concurrence of the Home Government.

3dly.—A vote of 1,000*l.* for the colonization experiment recommended by Captain Sim in his report upon the tank of Kandilly.

4thly.—A vote of 1,500*l.* for improving the main road from Kandy to Trincomalee, between Matelle and Dambod.

5thly.—A vote of 1,500*l.* for continuing the metalled road between Jaffna and the Elephants' Pass, from the 24th to the 28th mile-stone.

The grounds upon which I recommend these three votes are fully stated in the minutes upon the eastern and northern provinces.

6thly.—A vote of 4,000*l.* to be laid out upon estimates sanctioned by the Governor and the Executive Council in the repair of tanks and other irrigation works, under the conditions laid down in Earl Grey's despatch of 24th June 1849, namely, that grants in aid shall be restricted to works in which a considerable amount of native labour is engaged, or which can be shown to be likely to produce a fair return for the capital invested, by increasing the productive powers of the island.

I consider this vote as due equally to the interests of the revenue and the claims of the native population. I have seen the most gratifying proofs of their powers of steady and persevering exertions wherever the representatives of the Government sympathise with their wants and direct their efforts. And though I cannot now point out the precise spots upon which the money will be expended, or submit to you estimates in the usual form for each item of the outlay, I will pledge myself that not one shilling shall be spent without such a probability of success as will fully justify the experiment, when the results are submitted to you with the accounts of the expenditure.

Lastly.—I propose to take a vote of 3,000*l.* for extraordinary expenses in the department of the surveyor-general, with regard to which I must ask for the Government a similar discretionary power.

I cannot too strongly record my belief that the state of the Survey Department, and the physical impossibility of meeting the demands upon it with the present establishment, are at the bottom of half the litigation and fraud that are to be found at this moment in the colony.

With a man of great ability and untiring industry at its head, fully sensible of the defects of the system, and most anxious to remedy them, it is impossible that one third of what ought to be done and might be done profitably in every sense, morally, pecuniarily, and socially, can even be attempted by the department without a large increase of strength, which must be obtained somehow and somewhere.

Captain Gosset has submitted to me a plan for dealing with native applications for land, which are now set aside altogether, from the pressure of larger claims in the planting districts, that appears to me to merit most serious consideration. You have to choose between enabling men to become the owners of land in small allotments, on definite and reasonable terms, or to force them into an usurpation of the rights of the Crown, which they defend afterwards by every species of legal chicanery. Her Majesty's Government is in full possession of the facts, and of my opinions respecting them, and it will, I am sure, see with pleasure those remedial measures for which I shall ask you to provide by

CEYLON;

this vote, when they shall have been more fully explained to you by the surveyor-general.

A banking ordinance, to supply the place of that disallowed last year by the Queen, will be submitted to you. The experience of the last six months has, I think, shown that no inconvenience will result from the transfer of the paper circulation of the colony to private banks, although it is to be regretted that both the banks should not yet have entitled themselves to be placed upon an equal footing. But this transfer only renders it the more necessary that the colony should be placed in a position to derive some addition to its revenue from the large privileges which it has conceded.

I have also directed two ordinances, which I think will prove highly beneficial to the native population, to be laid before you.

The first enables those districts into which the commutation system has not yet been introduced to bring themselves under its operation.

The second grants power to districts deriving their water from a common source to revive their ancient customs, and constitutes a local tribunal for the settlement of all disputes connected with irrigation. Both ordinances are of a permissive character. I am indebted to the Queen's advocate for the admirable simplicity of the legal machinery; and I will lay before you papers with regard to the irrigation ordinance in particular that will show how carefully the subject has been considered by persons of the greatest local experience.

The supplementary estimates for the present year will be larger than I could have desired or had anticipated, for I expected to meet the Council again before the close of the year, when I left Colombo in November. Had I done so, I should have submitted to you the vote for the repairs at the Queen's house, which you all know to have been indispensable from the state in which I found it, and the vote for the two bridges at Peradenia and Gampolle. These form the largest items of the supplementary expenditure. The Queen's house has cost 1,790*l*. The Peradenia bridge 1,686*l*., in addition to the original vote. The Gampolle bridge 2,000*l*., which will carry the work on to the close of the present year, leaving it to the Council to complete it by a similar vote in the estimates for 1857. All these works have been executed in a manner that merits the warmest commendation, and the colony may congratulate itself upon having secured the services of a man of so much energy and experience as Captain Graham in the management of two most important undertakings.

I fully recognize the constitutional principle, that supplementary votes should be resorted to as seldom as possible, and as my knowledge of the colony extends I shall hope to be able to include nearly the whole expenditure of the year in the ordinary estimates. But you will, I feel confident, make due allowance for the numerous claims urged upon a Governor on his first visit to distant provinces, and for the desirableness, in many instances, of obviating the necessity of a much larger expenditure by an immediate outlay.

The grounds for all that I have done are stated in the minutes on my northern tour, and I leave them to your impartial consideration.

Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

I shall now address you as succinctly as I can upon the subject which at this moment engrosses public attention.

I shall lay upon your table to-day copies of a despatch from Her Majesty's Secretary of State, and of an agreement entered into by him with the Ceylon railway company, for the formation of a railway between Colombo and Kandy.

This agreement is a provisional one; but it becomes a contract, legally binding upon both parties, if confirmed by ordinance within six months from the date of its signature.

Based upon the resolutions passed by the Legislative Council on the 9th of August last, the proposals originally made to the company were suspended for many months by the state of the money market in England.

They were renewed in March, upon the first dawn of peace; and after a protracted discussion, in which I feel confident that every man in the colony will gratefully acknowledge the time, labour, and thought bestowed by Mr. Labouchere upon the interests of a distant dependency, the negotiation was closed on the 8th of June, by the assent of the railway company to terms which appear to the Secretary of State "to achieve the first and principal object of securing the completion of the railway within a reasonable time, and which he is disposed to recommend for your concurrence."

Mr. Labouchere, in another paragraph, expresses his belief "that the stipulations entered into will be found to have been considered with a due regard to the interests of Ceylon, and to secure to the island important advantages."

Both in this despatch, and in a confidential despatch that preceded it, to parts of which I thought it expedient to give the same wholesome publicity that I have sought in every stage of this transaction, as the best security for arriving at a sound conclusion, Mr. Labouchere has expressed his opinion, "that it would be more advisable to commit the construction and working of the railway to a company, which could give substantial guarantees of solvency, than to undertake to complete the work by the direct agency of the Island Government acting through contractors."



In this opinion I entirely concur, for though I will shrink from no duty that the interests of the colony require me to undertake, I confess that I view with much apprehension the complicated series of transactions in which the Local Government would be engaged, by the necessity of raising the capital required for so large an undertaking, upon bonds, subject to all the fluctuations of the money market, and by the influence which the chances of peace or war must exercise upon the operations of the most opulent contractor. I prefer, therefore, the intermediate agency, if it present sufficient proof of competency to fulfil its engagements, and be subjected to such conditions as will control its action upon those points with regard to which all companies are disposed to consult the interests of their shareholders rather than those of the public.

In all these respects I affirm without hesitation that the agreement which I shall place in your hands is almost unexampled in the stringency of its precautions. It is useless to analyse a document which will receive from you that full and careful consideration which it merits, whether we look to the high authority from which it proceeds, or to the importance of the objects contemplated. That its scope and tenor should not have been thoroughly understood, until the agreement itself was before the public, is perfectly natural. No precise could do it justice, or guard against some honest misapprehensions.

But the more you examine it, the more you will be convinced that, for attaining a given end, within a given time, it is nearly a perfect instrument; that the advantages are reciprocal, and by no means unfairly divided; for if the rate of interest be high, the control vested in the Government over the tariff, as well as over the choice and construction of the line, the making the payment of the guaranteed interest dependent on the actual completion of the work within the time stipulated, the maintenance of the railway in perfect working order, at the cost of the company, during the whole period of the contract, and the intervention of the Secretary of State in calling up the capital, as required, and placing it to the credit of the colony, without risk or responsibility or possible loss, are privileges of no ordinary importance.

The only fault that I have to find with the arrangement is the amount of responsibility which it imposes upon the Local Government.

But I must warn you, that you cannot lessen this, without changing the character of the agreement altogether.

It may be matter of fair consideration, whether it would be expedient to trust the Government less, and the company more,—whether it would be desirable to bind the company down, directly and peremptorily, to execute the whole work for a given sum, as has been proposed at Kandy. But in that case you must have another and a different agreement. You must create other and different machinery. You cannot call upon a body of men, who bind themselves simply to construct a line of railway, in the selection of which they have neither voice nor authority, to complete the work for a given sum, when the extent of it may vary from 70 miles to 100. There must be another limit to their responsibility; and that limit is, the provision made by the 20th clause of the agreement, namely, that “if the line, as selected by the Ceylon Government, under the 4th article, or as subsequently altered, under the 5th article, shall exceed 90 statute miles in length,” “the company shall not, for the purpose of completing the railway, be bound to raise and provide a capital exceeding in amount 1,200,000*l*.”

In the preceding part of the same article it is stipulated, “that if the sum of 800,000*l*, to be provided in pursuance of the 19th article of the agreement, shall be insufficient “to defray the entire cost of constructing the railway, with the necessary works thereto “belonging, the company shall be bound to raise and expend such further capital,” (not 400,000*l*, or any other specific sum,) but “such further capital as may be required for “the above purposes,” subject to the condition already specified, namely, that the length of the line shall not exceed 90 statute miles, “by making which, and by the expenditure “of 1,200,000*l*., the company shall be held to have performed every covenant, stipulation, and obligation.”

There may be some obscurity in the wording of this article; but I state to you, upon the highest authority, that its object as assented to on both sides is to reserve to the Ceylon Government a double right, and to impose upon the company a double obligation. If the Government keep within the limit of 90 miles, it is entitled to call for any amount of capital, at 5 per cent., which may be necessary to complete the line. If it exceeds the 90 miles, (that is, the limit of length,) it cannot overpass the limit of capital, 1,200,000*l*., but within that limit, as regards amount, the Government may make as large a détour as it may deem expedient or necessary.

It has been argued, that under this provision the company may waste money upon unnecessary works, in order to swell the amount of capital invested. But with the Government rest the responsibility and the check, for the company can do nothing of which the engineer of the Government disapproves, and its works must be executed to his satisfaction.

Subject to these limitations, it is the interest, both of the colony and of the company, that a power of this nature should be reserved, in dealing with a country not yet sufficiently known, and full of natural difficulties; for it may be cheaper to construct 100 miles of railway upon improved levels, than 70 miles upon the levels of the existing survey. But the right of exceeding the 90 miles is one that no prudent Government would exercise, except upon the highest professional authority.

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And now, gentlemen, let us look at the precise shape in which the question comes before you.

It is admitted on all sides, if the resolutions of public meetings be any criterion of public opinion, that the construction of a railway is desirable, for the development and security of the producing interests of the colony.

It is admitted that a fresh survey must be made before the precise direction of the line can be fixed.

It is admitted that the charge upon the revenues of the island ought not, in prudence, to exceed the interest upon 1,200,000*l.* of capital.

It is admitted that this charge must be defrayed out of fresh taxation, since the attempt to provide for it out of the ordinary revenue would paralyse for five years those improvements in roads and bridges which are now rapidly advancing, and upon which will mainly depend the utility of the railway, when completed. The nature and amount of this taxation it will be for you to consider.

Upon all these points the opinions of Her Majesty's Government are in accordance with those expressed in the colony during the last six weeks, and entertained, I believe, by the great majority of its inhabitants.

It remains for you to determine whether you can devise a quicker, cheaper, or surer mode of attaining the common end, than the adoption of the agreement concluded on your behalf by the Secretary of State, and recommended by him for your concurrence.

Mr. Labouchere has not, however, imposed upon me the duty of urging this measure upon you as one in which Her Majesty's Government is interested. Your decision will be the result of your own deliberate convictions; and if I have dwelt so largely upon my own views respecting it, it is because I regard it as my duty not to conceal them, when I see, on the one side, practical and positive results to be attained within a certain time, and by a certain amount of expenditure, and, on the other, vague suggestions, which it will take years to invest with a substantive character.

I therefore most respectfully recommend you to consider, in the first place, whether the circumstances of the colony are such as to warrant you in embarking "in so considerable an undertaking?" The Secretary of State has himself suggested the doubt, and invited your opinion respecting it.

If you adhere to your former resolutions, and think that a railway ought to be made in Ceylon, then I recommend you to make it, now that you have the means and the opportunity; for if you reject the one, and let slip the other, my belief is, that much time will elapse before you stand again in the same position.

I am not conscious that in tendering to you this advice I am biased by any other motive than the deepest interest in your welfare, and a natural desire, when I go, to leave some useful recollections of my stay amongst you. I now commit the question to your hands, with the certainty that it will be fully and impartially considered, and with the earnest hope that whether you agree with me or not it may be brought to a right decision.

H. G. WARD.

Encl. 9 in No. 35.

Enclosure 9 in No. 35.

(No. 410.)

Civil Engineer and Commissioner of Roads' Office,  
Colombo, April 29, 1857.

SIR,

IN reply to your letter No. 275, of the 20th instant, I have the honour to report, that the Queen's house, Colombo, is in good repair. The wood-work is being repainted, and will be completed in about a fortnight.

2. The pavilion at Kandy is in good repair, the new tiled roof having been completed at the close of last year.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) T. SKINNER,  
Inspector and Commissioner of Roads.

(A true Copy.)

R. BRAYBROOK.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary,  
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. 10 in No. 35.

Enclosure 10 in No. 35.

(No. 97.)

Deputy Commissary General's Office,  
Colombo, April 29, 1857.

SIR,

ADVERTING to your letter, No. 168, of the 18th instant, calling for my report upon the public furniture of Queen's house and the pavilion, I have the honour to state, that although much of the furniture at both residences is of an old fashioned style and pattern, and of a very mixed description, still it is upon the whole in good order. The amount specially voted last year and the year before for providing plain but substantial furniture for the bedrooms has been advantageously expended, and, with a few additions which can from time to time be made to the general stock of furniture out of the sum annually voted for its maintenance, it may be considered that the Governor's residences are tolerably well supplied with all kinds of useful furniture.

But I permit myself to take advantage of this opportunity to observe, with reference to the required payment by the Governor of 50*l.* per annum for the use of the furniture

of the private rooms, that the charge appears to me to be somewhat heavy in proportion to the value of the articles. I would suggest that 25*l.* per annum would be a sufficient payment towards meeting the expense of keeping in proper order the furniture of the private rooms, it being understood, however, that every article broken or unnecessarily damaged through the carelessness of servants should be paid for at double its prime cost.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) W. D. BERNARD, D.C.G.

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## HONG KONG.

No. 36.

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir JOHN BOWRING to the Right Honourable H. LABOUCHERE, dated

(No. 125.)

Government Offices, Victoria,  
Hong Kong, August 11, 1857.  
(Received Nov. 3, 1857.)

HONG KONG.

No. 36.

I HAVE to apologize for some delay in forwarding the Blue Book, and for its incompleteness in some particulars. The many changes that have taken place among the functionaries,—the absence of several heads of departments from the colony,—the state of political affairs, which has disturbed to a considerable extent the ordinary resources of the Government, and augmented in various and unanticipated ways the demands upon the public revenue,—added to my own somewhat shattered health, will all, I doubt not, induce you to look with indulgence on any shortcomings or defects in the returns I have now the honor to forward.

I must, however, add, with respect to the public service generally, confided as it has been in many important departments to gentlemen new to official life, that I have every reason to be satisfied with their exertions, placed as we have all been in circumstances of almost unprecedented danger and difficulty.

And I think it is a subject of fair and honest congratulation, that, whatever mistakes, if any, have been committed, or whatever censures, deserved or not, have been directed against the Executive authority, we have succeeded in maintaining the public tranquillity, and in carrying the colony through, not alone the ordinary perils which the interruption of friendly relations with the neighbouring province of Kwangtung necessarily brought with it, but through those more mysterious and occult dangers, in the shape of assassinations, poisonings, and incendiarisms, encouraged by large pecuniary premiums, and by appeals to every passion of cupidity, malignity, and hatred to which barbarism could look for allies.

Up to the present moment, I have not drawn for one penny against any Parliamentary grant. We have found in the surplus revenues of former years, and which it was proposed to appropriate to important public works, the means of temporarily providing for the heavy augmentation of charges; but I shall have ere long to avail myself of the promised aid.

The report of the acting colonial secretary does not appear to require many observations from me. I concur generally in his views as to the state of the revenues and expenditure of the colony. I see nothing in our financial position to prevent the colony, under ordinary circumstances, from being a self-supporting colony as regards the whole of its civil establishment. The taxation upon the inhabitants is light indeed, and there is no impost but for a specific service; indeed the Crown revenues make up for the deficiencies of those expenses which ought to be provided for out of the taxes specially levied for the particular services. The police rate, now 10 per cent. on rental, is altogether insufficient to pay the cost of police, jails, &c. The lighting rate has not up to the present time covered the expenditure associated with that department of outlay; and at the present moment the reserved fund which I had intended to be applied solely to public works of utility and importance has been temporarily absorbed by the urgencies of our present position. If Lord Elgin consents to make and enforce these claims upon the Chinese Government on behalf of this island which I should undoubtedly have done had the powers of negotiation remained in my hands, I shall not only be able to repay any amount with which I may be assisted by the

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Imperial Treasury, but be enabled to resume all those undertakings which have from time to time been reported on, many of which have received your sanction, but have been necessarily suspended in order to avoid financial embarrassments. This may be a fit occasion to state, that though on the departure of Mr. Riensacker it was officially reported to me that, whatever irregularities there may have been, the balances of public money were found to be quite correct, subsequent discoveries have caused me much solicitude, and I wait with anxiety the report of the commission which I have charged with a thorough investigation of all the accounts since the period of the last audit by the London board. The illness of the Lieut. Governor, who has been confined by gout to his house for the last six weeks, has impeded the progress of the inquiry, in which I shall have the assistance of members of the commissariat, whose practical knowledge of accounts will on this occasion be invaluable.

Mr. Bridges' opinions on the subject of legal reforms are entitled to much attention. I can confirm those opinions by the results of my own observation. The general Legislation of 1856 has, I believe, been of a most salutary character.

In the eulogiums on Mr. Caldwell's services, and the estimate of the value of his assistance, I cordially concur. To no one individual has the colony been so much indebted on its passage through our troublous times. The check upon the growing population of the colony is less than might have been anticipated; the blanks are gradually filling up; the respectable Chinese are returning, and I am persuaded there will be (if nothing unexpected occur) a gradual and a growing increase, all concurring to render Hong Kong one of the most prosperous and progressive of colonies under the protection of the British flag. When the Praya is completed, when the docks are built, communications facilitated, our sewerage and drainage improved, new markets provided, and various public buildings undertaken (as the state of our finances will allow), I think we may safely look forward with pride and confidence to a satisfactory futurity.

Whatever remains to be done for the melioration of the public health (and there is much required), the small average mortality of the colony is the best answer to those who are constantly demanding more than we are able to concede. I have had great satisfaction in receiving of late frequent testimonies to the great superiority in the salubrity and cleanly appearance of the portions of our colony inhabited by the native population, as compared or contrasted with similar localities in the towns and cities of British India, or other oriental regions.

I am as dissatisfied as ever with the state of public education in the colony. The commission I nominated never made any report, and lent me no assistance whatever in this great work. Mr. Hillier was removed first to Siam, and then from this world's cares. Mr. Medhurst was shifted to Foochau. Mr. Wade has been absolutely overwhelmed with his own duties (and has been lending habitually great and gratuitous assistance to the colonial department). To confess the truth, I have wholly failed in discovering any really efficient co-operation in this important work. You will better estimate the difficulties of this question when I mention that for the last six years 250*l.* a year has been voted by Parliament to the bishop's college, for the education of six persons destined to the public service, and that not a single individual from that college has been yet declared competent to undertake even the meanest department of an interpreter's duty, though I have no doubt of the bishop's zeal and wish to show some practical and beneficial result from the said parliamentary grant. I must also add, that to the missionaries alone I can at present look for active assistance, and that their special objects do not usually fit them for the direction of popular and general education.

As to the trade returns, though unable to furnish any accurate statistics of imports and exports, the enormous augmentation of the tonnage entering the harbour in 1856, namely, 8113,07 tons, being an increase of 206,727 tons on the shipping of 1855, is undeniable evidence of the prosperous state of that department of commerce; and I may add, that the enormous importations of rice from Siam since the treaty of 1855 have created a new trade, and have been most instrumental in keeping the food of the people at tolerably reasonable rates, which otherwise might have mounted (as in many parts of China) to famine prices.

As to the criminal returns, I am assured by Mr. May, who was long engaged in the police service in London, that the proportionate number and gravity of offences committed here is considerably less than those of the British metropolis; and when it is remembered that Hong Kong has been the recipient of the scum of Canton, the vilest and fiercest of the population of China, the results cannot but be a matter of congratulation, and serve to show that our police, with all its defects, has not been wholly insufficient for the protection of persons and property.

I have desired the colonial treasurer to prepare a report on the present financial state and future prospects of the colony, which I hope to be shortly enabled to communicate to you.

The estimates for the year 1858 are in the course of preparation. The extreme pressure of public business has led to some delay in getting them ready.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN BOWRING.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.,  
&c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 36.

Encl. in No. 36.

SIR,

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Victoria, Hong Kong, May 29, 1857.

I HAVE the honour to submit to you the Blue Book for Hong Kong for the year 1856. As I was absent from this colony during the whole of such year, with the exception of the first 15 and the last six days, it will not be in my power to lay before you a report similar to those written by Mr. Mercer, whose locum teneas I have the honour to be, and for past events I must entirely rely upon the information furnished by the different heads of departments.

2. The revenue for the year has amounted to 35,500*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.*, and the expenditure to 42,426*l.* 6*s.* 5½*d.*, showing, as compared with 1855, a decrease in the revenue of 12,473*l.* 2*s.* 4½*d.*, and an increase in the expenditure amounting to 1,612*l.* 15*s.* 3½*d.*

However unsatisfactory this may at first sight appear, the causes which have produced the decrease on the one hand and increase on the other are not such as in any way to militate against the well-doing of the colony. In the year 1855 the influx of population caused a great demand for land, and thereupon almost every available lot was put up for sale, and no less a sum than 15,720*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*, realized from this source alone. In 1856 the premiums, &c. arising from land sales amounted to only 1,141*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.*, showing a falling off of 14,579*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.* Were, therefore, the amounts realized by land sales deducted from the revenue in 1855 and 1856 it would be found that instead of a decrease there has been an increase of receipts in 1856 of 2,106*l.* 12*s.* 2½*d.* A single item will also account for the increase of the expenditure, and that is, police and jails, which are in excess over 1855, 1,033*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.* This excess was caused by the necessity imposed (consequent on the Canton difficulty) of considerably increasing the police force, apprehending an unusual number of persons, and taking a great number of extra precautionary measures. If, therefore, I cannot report very favourably to your Excellency on the debtor and creditor colonial account for the year 1856, yet I cannot find any symptom of falling off. The colony would appear on the whole to be gaining ground; slowly, perhaps, as compared with the remarkable year 1855; but not to retrograde in to advance in a settlement like this. I now proceed to remark on the public works.

3. The surveyor general's office has passed through three hands during 1856. Mr. Cleverly, having gone home on leave in the month of February, was succeeded by Captain Cowper, R.E., and when that officer fell a victim to a lamentable accident in Canton, he was succeeded by the present acting surveyor general, Mr. Walker. The carefully prepared report of that officer sets forth in detail the various labours of his department during the year, the aggregate amount of expenditure on which has been 9,247*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.* I do not find any specific items to which I deem it necessary to draw the attention of your Excellency; but I may perhaps be permitted to remark, that the general state of the roads, streets, and drains in and about the town of Victoria reflect the highest credit on the surveyor-general's department generally, and if kept up in their present condition will enable the town of Victoria to bear the test of comparison with any colonial town.

4. The Legislative Council passed during the year 1856 no less than fifteen ordinances. Of these, up to the 31st December, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 had been confirmed by Her Most Gracious Majesty. Ordinances 1, 4, and 6 of 1855 were also confirmed during that year. The changes introduced by the local legislature appear to have been of a most important and beneficial character, especially as regards the practice and procedure of the supreme court, and the administration of civil and criminal justice. Ordinances 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, and 15 had either been passed at too late a period in the year to afford sufficient time for obtaining the approval of the Queen thereto, or were required to stand the test of trial before being confirmed.

HONG KONG.

5. The registrar general's department was towards the close of the year again placed under Mr. Caldwell, whose knowledge of the Chinese character and local dialects render him in my humble opinion, not only the colonial officer best suited for this particular office, but also the most necessary servant of the Queen in this colony. His return gives the amount of our population to be 71,730,—a decrease of a few hundreds as compared with 1855, but when it is remembered that the increase in 1855 was nearly 17,000 it is satisfactory to find that the experience of another year proves such large increase, although due at the time to accidental circumstances, to have been permanent. Only five houses are stated to have been empty in the town of Victoria; and this is a fact to which I must draw the attention of your Excellency, as a great proof of prosperity.

6. The ascertained number of deaths in the colony appears to be 2,443, or not quite 3½ per cent.; but the habits of the Chinese will, I am afraid, prevent us from relying upon any calculation of this description as a proof of the healthiness or unhealthiness of the locality. That Hong Kong does not deserve the character for insalubrity which attaches to it in Europe is a matter which no resident here for any length of time will think at all doubtful.

#### *Education.*

It is much to be regretted that the benefit conferred upon the community by the numerous places for education which appear in the returns should be so nearly nominal as it seems to be at present. The free school at Saint Paul's College, under the direction of the Bishop of Victoria, has been for many years past in receipt of a yearly donation of 250*l.* per annum from the Imperial funds; but I should be at a loss to specify the advantage accruing from such outlay, either to the community in general or to the colonial Government, in the shape of interpreters or trustworthy employes. Nineteen other small schools, under the superintendence of the Educational Committee, and at the expense of the colonial Government, are scattered throughout the Chinese population of the colony. These may, and it is to be hoped will, in time yield fruit; but nothing can, I fear, well be at a lower ebb than education generally here, and so it must, I am afraid, continue for some time, chiefly owing to want of funds.

#### *Exports and Imports.*

The usual tables of exports and imports have been prepared for the Blue Book, and on being referred to will show no falling-off in the arrivals at the port; but in the absence of a custom-house, and any means of ascertaining with any certainty the correctness of such details, I feel myself unable to rely upon the returns here laid before your Excellency. They may be taken for what they are worth; but revenue and population are the only tests by which I should be inclined to try the advance or falling-off of our condition.

#### *Crime.*

The criminal returns of the supreme court show that 183 persons have been tried under 85 charges, and of these 100 have been convicted, 46 acquitted, the prosecution was abandoned against 36, and 1 stood over for trial in 1857. Piracy and cases connected with piracy account for no less than 34 of these cases and 45 of these convictions, and piracy must necessarily have been committed out of the colonial jurisdiction. Considering the amount of our population, the remainder of our calendar speaks in favour of the small amount of crime existing in 1856; but there must be a much more efficient police at the service of the colonial Government before the tenuity of the list of convicted criminals can be taken as a favourable symptom of our moral progress.

I have, &c.

His Excellency the Governor,  
&c.      &c.      &c.

(Signed) W. T. BRIDGES,  
Acting Colonial Secretary.

## LABUAN.

LABUAN.

No. 37.

No. 37.

DESPATCHES from Governor the Hon. GEORGE EDWARDES to  
the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 5.)  
(Extract.)

Government Offices, Labuan,  
April 28, 1857.  
(Received July 14, 1857.)

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1856.

Having reported in my Despatch, Financial No. 2, accompanying the estimates for the current year, upon the present state of the colony, a repetition is unnecessary.

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COPY of a DESPATCH referred to in the preceding Despatch.

(No. 2.)

Government Office, Labuan,  
December 8, 1856.  
(Received March 9, 1857.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward the estimates for the year 1857.

2. It is with great regret I exhibit so large a deficiency in the revenue to meet the expenditure which has been restricted, with the exception of one hundred and twenty-five pounds, to the payment of the establishment, the maintenance of public buildings, repairs of roads, and the necessary incidental expenses.

3. I have estimated the royalty on coal at the minimum amount fixed, as I understood previous to my leaving England, viz., (1,000*l.*) one thousand pounds, to be secured in the lease then about to be executed.

4. I have given notice that, from and after the first of January next, the rent on the town lands, remitted by order of my predecessor, will be required. I see no reason why that indulgence should be extended. The descriptive return enclosed of the town allotments shows that most of the houses are occupied, and those lots which are not built upon are chiefly in the hands of persons well able to pay rent. At the same time I have made known that I am willing to take any individual case into consideration where the proprietors can show any just cause why the rent should be remitted.

5. The increase in the land revenue over the estimate for the year 1856 arises from the addition of the rents for the town lots, and a third year's rent in arrears due from the Eastern Archipelago Company, payable in England.

6. I regret likewise to notice the continued diminution in the revenue from the licences farmed out. This is to be attributed to the decrease of our Chinese population. In a former Despatch I stated that upwards of one hundred had left the island since January last, others have since emigrated, and I fear this number will yet be increased, owing to the entire absence of all demand for labour, and the great feeling of insecurity to life from the unhealthy state of the locality (the port and adjacent parts) where these people reside, owing to the defective drainage.

7. I am most anxious, Sir, to draw your attention to this point, as I consider the fate of the colony depends upon the means that are adopted to check the prevalent fever.

8. When the colony was first established the mortality was very great. A few drains were cut, and the result was immediate in changing the character of the fever from fatal remittent to that of intermittent and much milder form. In the two succeeding years there were very few cases of either the one or the other. From the year 1852 the drainage has been almost totally neglected, the old drains are choked up, the jungle is regaining possession of the plain, and

LABUAN.

the fever is now, I may say, prevalent again. Fortunately in most cases it still retains its milder character, but there have been instances when it has not been so, and death has claimed his victim; the Chinese rarely recover. Shortly after my arrival a Chinese trader arrived and opened a store, leaving his agent to conduct the business; on his return from Brunè, within the month, the agent was dead and buried, the establishment closed, and the goods removed to Brunè.

9. I arrived here, Sir, on the 16th of August. Since then, of the four Government servants with me, two have been ill with fever; of the second class employed, one half likewise. Of twenty-three convicts, nineteen. Of one hundred and twenty privates of the Honourable Company's Sepoy force stationed here, there were fifty cases of fever admitted to hospital in the month of September, and eighty-five in November. The whole domestic establishments of the treasurer and the secretary have been ill. Of the four servants I brought with me from Singapore, three have had the fever,—the first a dangerous case. The third was seized on the morning of Wednesday last, and was buried within forty-eight hours; and, as I previously reported, the managing director of the Eastern Archipelago Company sickened and died within six days.

10. I trust, Sir, this statement will justify an application to Parliament for a grant of money in addition to what is required to make up the deficiency in the revenue, that I may be enabled to take some steps to remove this great impediment to our prosperity.

11. I enclose an estimate for the drainage of the plain immediately adjacent to the port. This work can only be carried on during the dry months of the north-east monsoon, commencing in January; the whole amount will not, therefore, be required in one year.

12. Impressed, Sir, as I am with the necessity of exerting myself to protect the lives of the inhabitants, I shall not, however, incur any extra expenditure without your sanction, but restrict myself to the convict labour at my command, limited as it is, to draw off some of the stagnant waters, and employ hired labour only to the extent of one hundred pounds, to remove the jungle which is covering the clearing on Government Hill, now fast returning to that state from which it was reclaimed at great cost. Being more personally interested in this portion of the work, I should not have undertaken it were it not that delay will greatly increase the expense, and from the consideration that something must be done to stop the desertion of our population.

13. I enclose a return of Government buildings, showing their present state. The amount set down for repairs will be, I fear, barely sufficient to keep them from entire decay. The Government Offices, upon which fourteen thousand dollars were expended, are in such a dilapidated condition that during the wet season it is frequently impossible to carry on the business, the rain coming in and lying in pools in every department. The tiles were removed to relieve the building of a pressure it could not withstand, but there is every probability that the relief will have been only temporary. I have incurred this year an extra expense in repairing the roof of the commissariat store.

Enclosure.

14. I enclose an extract of a letter from Captain Chapman, reporting upon the state and management of the commissariat department, recommending the removal of the stores to the lines, alleging the insecurity of the site; they are certainly liable to the same chances with other property and the community at the port, and the consequences of their destruction would be severely felt. It would undoubtedly be desirable to place the stores in a more secure position, but, not having any apprehension of danger, I am at present more anxious to apply the means that may be obtained from Parliament to endeavour to secure the health of the sepoy, who are such great sufferers from the unhealthy state of the plain, as, were the stores to be removed it would not be advisable to leave the port without protection. Several of the military buildings are of a very unsubstantial construction, and require frequent expense to maintain them.

15. It would have been of great advantage to complete the road to Tanjong Kubong. I have, however, confined the outlay to what will be required to keep the communication open, and for the general repair of the roads already constructed.



16. I have now only to mention the item of twenty-five pounds for additional type to enable me to print our ordinances and other Government documents, the present stock being insufficient to set out even the necessary forms, returns, &c.

17. It would, Sir, have been some satisfaction to me could I have shown any source of immediate increase to the revenue. At present I have no such cheering prospect before me. The coal company has still to contend against great difficulties. Under the most favourable circumstances the works cannot be relieved of the water which now fills the new slants to the brim earlier than March next. It will then require some time to open the galleries, so as to take in the full complement of coal cutters, and set the works in full play. At present the yield of coal is small, very little in excess of six hundred tons a month; nor is there any hope of a material increase in the next quarter, though the dry weather may give some advantage. At Tanjong Kubong all proceeds at present as favourably as was expected. At Moarra a late affliction has fallen upon their prospects, the rains have been unusually heavy this season, and an extensive landslip has come down, injuring the works, covering up a considerable portion of the coal available for shipment, and barred at great cost, shutting up with thousands of tons of earth the roadway to the remainder; this is a heavy blow, and is of such recent date that I am unable to form any conclusion as to the extent of the damage, as all seem paralyzed by the calamity. I fear it may be an impediment to the loading of the steamers should they come suddenly upon them, but I trust the injury will be repaired in some little time, though at increased expense.

18. Under such circumstances I cannot hope for a larger return this year from the coal properties, calculating the royalty at 1s. per ton. Should the works, however, be carried on under the original agreement at 2s. 6d., there will be a considerable increase, as I confidently anticipate that for the last six months the yield will be raised to a very respectable amount.

19. I have not considered it advisable to attempt an addition to the revenue by imposing any new tax on the population. The few remaining Chinese pay their full share to the opium and spirit farms, the remainder who are now untouched might be reached by a duty on tobacco, and very legitimately be called upon to contribute; the difficulty and expense of collection, owing to the near neighbourhood of Borneo, would, however, render the return too insignificant to risk the probability of driving away the Malay inhabitants, who, under existing circumstances, cannot be considered as a fixed population beyond the few who, having offended against the Pangerans of their own country, fear to return.

20. That I may give you, Sir, a clear insight of the present state of the colony, I enclose a return of all the land which has been disposed of on lease for 999 years, showing the amount realized and the annual rent in dollars. In the island of Labuan 662 acres are so leased; 201 have been cleared, of which 61 are attached to the residence of the several Government servants, leaving 140. The total number of acres planted with cocoa-nuts, &c. &c., is 116. Pulo Daat is an island at some little distance from Labuan; the lease was sold in the year 1855. It comprises 587 acres, of which 400 have been cleared and 300 are planted with cocoa-nuts. This is the only attempt at cultivation upon an extensive scale that has hitherto been undertaken, and unfortunately being detached from us does not afford the full benefit of so good an example. A few families of natives have established themselves in the interior of our island and have cleared some extent, growing paddy, sugar-canes, and fruit trees; there are also a few garden pieces cultivated; these have not been leased, and at present pay no rent. Applications have lately been made to the colonial surveyor for permission to occupy land by some natives of Borneo, who are anxious to establish themselves here. When they arrive I shall be inclined to accede to their request, as I would gladly see the jungle fall, which now covers many valuable acres.

21. In conclusion, Sir, I would wish to observe, that there is no doubt of the existence of very valuable coal in the island. From whatever cause its production in the market may have been delayed, I trust it will in a few months be supplied to a considerable extent; which may be increased according to the demand to any amount, relieving our mines at home from a supply that is afforded at a very great waste. Although these may be very far-sighted views,

## LABUAN.

they may be worth consideration in applying to Parliament for a protracted support to this colony.

22. I have lately received a communication from the Datu of Palawan, expressing his desire to trade with us. A few prahus have disposed of their cargoes here satisfactorily, and I am told that more are now on their way to this port. From the islands of Soolook and the north eastern parts of Borneo, we have had this year several cargoes of too great a value for our trade, which had to seek a better market.

Were the ill repute of our climate (extended even to China) removed, there is no doubt our merchant population would increase; I do not fear to effect this great object, as I consider the climate of Labuan better than that of Singapore. That the colony has not been utterly abandoned, and yet struggles under such great difficulties, is, I consider, a fair pledge that under better auspices it will yet prosper.

I have, &c.

(Signed)      GEORGE EDWARDES,  
Governor, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c.      &c.      &c.

Encl. in No. 37.

Enclosure in No. 37.

EXTRACT of a Letter from Lieut. Chapman to Lieut. Walker, Deputy Assistant Commissary General, Singapore, under date April 1856.

I do not think the stores are in a secure spot; they are nearly two miles from the sepoy lines, and should the pirates on the neighbouring coast make a descent at night, the provisions and Government property might be captured or destroyed long before intelligence reached the lines. I am told that there was expectation of a visit of pirates, and a small stockade was hurriedly erected, and a space allotted to the commissariat sufficient to contain six weeks provisions; but what was to become of the remainder on the beach, if abandoned or destroyed? Whence were provisions to be procured? Not on the island certainly, and the harbour is often six weeks without a single vessel at anchor.

In my humble opinion the stores ought to be near the lines, and a shed kept on the beach sufficient to cover stores when landed, and until they could be removed.

## FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No. 38.

## FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No. 38.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor MOORE to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 12.)

Government House, Stanley, Falkland Islands,  
February 18, 1857.  
(Received May 14, 1857.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the annual Blue Book of this colony for the year 1856.

2. You will see by these returns that the Colonial Revenue shows an increase over that of last year of about 150*L*.; this is partly ascribable to the purchase and rental of Keppel Island by the Patagonian Mission Society for missionary purposes; and, should their labours in the extension of Christianity among the natives of the neighbouring coast prove successful, it will be a source of satisfaction to feel that our occupation of these islands has materially aided so noble a cause; and it may become, I trust, the means of opening a new field for the trade of the colony.

3. The population, however, I regret to add, is somewhat on the decrease. Many of the pensioners, whose period of enrolment expired in July last, and

employés of the Falkland Islands Company, whose engagements are terminated, having preferred returning to the mother country to squander the small savings they have already made, to remaining here, where, from the high rate of wages, they might live in comparative luxury with but little work; and others who hope to find in any change an easier mode of existing in idleness and dissipation.

4. I cannot but notice, at the same time, that these islands offer at present but little inducement to persons for investing their money. The dominion over the wild cattle in the hands of the Falkland Islands Company renders it impossible for stock farming to be undertaken as yet by other parties, and the finer climate and easier life of the River Plate seem to offer greater attractions to those who might undertake the management of sheep. With respect to agriculture, corn cannot be produced with much success, and the very uncertain market for garden produce has hitherto operated as a damper on those persons who have tried cultivation to any extent. During the past year the calls for shipping have considerably decreased, no doubt from causes of a temporary nature, such, for instance, as the war; but the diminished demand for supplies and labour, consequent thereon, has produced a feeling of despondency not easily eradicated.

5. Labour, although not in great demand, is very high; but the large prices charged by the only two merchants in the colony for the principal articles of consumption counteract to a great extent the attraction of good wages. Artisans earn from 7s. to 16s. per diem, when employed, and unskilled workmen from 4s. to 6s.

6. It is satisfactory for me to be enabled to state, at the same time, that drunkenness, the vice of all new settlements, has considerably abated; that the gaol is rarely occupied; and that the best order and good feeling pervade every class of the community.

I have, &c.

(Signed) THOS. E. L. MOORE,

Governor.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.



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PART VI.

MEDITERRANEAN POSSESSIONS AND  
THE IONIAN ISLANDS.

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## PART VI.—MEDITERRANEAN POSSESSIONS AND THE IONIAN ISLANDS.

GIBRALTAR.

### GIBRALTAR.

No. 39.

No. 39.

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-General Sir JAMES FEROUSSON  
to the Right Honourable Lord PAMMURE.

(No. 45.)

Gibraltar, March 11, 1837.

IN transmitting the Blue Book for the past year, it will be seen that there has been a great increase in the revenue, which has enabled me to effect some necessary improvements for the comfort, convenience, and health of this fortress, and the first subject, consequently, which requires explanation is the increase of Colonial Expenditure. On referring to pages 28 and 29 of the Blue Book, your Lordship will perceive that some of the salaries of different officers have been increased, partly on account of increase of duties, and partly from length of service; whilst on the other hand it has been found advisable to dispense entirely with the services of others.

Another item is caused by expenses in revenue buildings, and in these the principal outlay has been in repairing and refurnishing the Government House (the Convent). On my arrival here in August 1835, I found the Convent in a state requiring extensive repairs; it had not been painted, nor had anything been done to it for years, and the repairs found absolutely necessary proved in execution more extensive than were calculated on; the building itself is very old and straggling, and the climate, alternately very hot and very wet, necessitates constant care.

The other items are, replacing the pipes of the Moorish Aqueduct (the old pipes being quite choked); the improvement in the market, by which the accommodation has been considerably increased, and has proved most beneficial to the public; the conversion of the old Beef-market (which for years had been scarcely used, being situate in a different part of the town to the regular market, and the rents accruing therefrom being insufficient to keep it in repair) into a washing establishment for the poorer classes and soldiers wives of the garrison, and for baths for all classes.

This latter establishment has now been opened, and will not only prove useful in the greatest degree, and beneficial in a sanitary point of view, but will also be remunerative.

Within the last few months the Colonial Post Office, which was used solely for Inland letters, has been closed, and all letters are now received and transmitted through the regular post office, for which a suitable building in a proper situation is now being prepared.

Whilst on the subject of public buildings, I would observe to your Lordship that a Gas Company has been formed here, and the works completed; it is unnecessary to trouble your Lordship with remarks on this head, as the benefit can be easily appreciated.

The new jetty which has been completed during the past year is proving most useful.

The prolongation of the New Mole, a work necessarily of much time, is now approaching completion, and will considerably increase the accommodation for Her Majesty's vessels of war, and afford protection in case of bad weather.

The drainage of the town had been rendered very imperfect by the erection of a breakwater outside the Linc-wall, but several pipes have now been laid down to carry the drainage completely outside, and the others being in progress, I hope all will be finished before the summer sets in, and that the public will no longer have cause to complain of the intolerable annoyance to which they were subjected.

During the last summer, a careful sanitary inspection was made, *house by house*, and the report sent to me was so well drawn up as to give me all the information I required, and preclude the necessity of any census.

Although there is an ample supply of water at all times on the north front, yet the inhabitants of the upper part of the town are put to much expense in procuring it, and it would be very desirable to form a large tank, partly for the supply of the poorer classes living there, and also for sanitary purposes, by occasionally flushing the drains of this, the most densely populated part of the town. A proposal and estimate for the formation of a tank near the Moorish Castle has already been sent for your Lordship's approbation.

It has been recommended to increase the accommodation of the Convict Establishment; its present situation is the best for the purpose, being healthy and retired; but on this subject a report from the committee will shortly be sent to your Lordship with my remarks.

A treaty with Morocco, which has been now signed, is expected by the merchants of Gibraltar to be very favourable to the trade of the place.

In submitting this report to your Lordship, I feel confident that though the new establishments to which I have alluded have increased the outlay for the year, they will be found, after a short time, not only to be beneficial to the community, but to be unattended with any increased expense.

## MALTA.

MALTA.

No. 40.

No. 40.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir WILLIAM REID to the  
Right Honourable H. LABOUCHERE, M.P.

(No. 54.)

Palace, Valletta, April 18, 1857.

(Received May 4, 1857.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book of Malta for the year 1856, together with a statement by the Auditor General in regard to the revenue and expenditure of the islands during that year.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed)

WILLIAM REID,

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.

Governor.

&amp;c.

&amp;c.

&amp;c.

Enclosure in No. 40.

Encl. in No. 40.

## Revenue.

The following view is offered of the gross revenue of Malta, received during the five years immediately preceding the one to which the present statement relates.

1851	-	£133,080	} Yearly average, £126,925.
1852	-	127,728	
1853	-	123,305	
1854	-	123,771	
1855	-	126,738	
Fractions	-	2	
			Y y 2

## MALTA.

2. For the year 1856 the gross receipt of revenue is stated at 144,795*l.*; but this sum includes 2,500*l.* as a subsidy from the funds of the United Kingdom in aid of the dredging service for deepening and clearing the harbours, 655*l.* recovered for overpayment of drawbacks, and 472*l.* received from the naval department for its share in the expense of constructing a mole. Deducting these three sums, the result will be a revenue of 141,168*l.*, the same being not only larger by 14,243*l.* than the before stated average, but exceeding by 8,088*l.* the collection of 1851, which is the largest yearly receipt previously derived since the reformation of the tariffs at the end of the year 1837. As compared with the revenue of 1855, the increase is 14,429*l.*

3. This increase over the receipt of the previous year is more than accounted for under the head of import duties, there having been a falling off of 1,045*l.* in the tonnage dues, and another of 1,467*l.* in the judicial receipts under modified tariffs of court dues. It is, however, hazardous to attempt to assign the cause of increase in the import duties, there being 6,600*l.* on wheat and its produce concurrent with heavier prices, and more than 8,000*l.* on wine, spirits, and beer, though succeeding to a year of great activity. At a venture, the increase may be ascribed to a larger consumption by the army and navy, to a larger concourse of persons in the transition from a state of war to one of peace, and to the improved condition of the labouring classes.

*Expenditure.*

4. For the expenditure of the year a provision of 122,185*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.* was made on the previous general estimate, added to 16,213*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.* remaining unexpended from the provision of former years, and a further supply of 4,184*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* was obtained upon supplemental estimates, besides which a sum of 2,500*l.* was furnished by Her Majesty's Government towards the service of the harbours in the manner already noticed. These four sums form a total of 145,083*l.* 7*s.* 11½*d.* applicable to the service of Malta.

5. Of this total 129,776*l.* 3*s.* 2½*d.* were disbursed within the year, 13,137*l.* 15*s.* remain for future disbursement, and 2,169*l.* 9*s.* 9½*d.* have been written off as unavailed of or saved.

6. At the close of the year the following was the state of the Island Treasury and of its liabilities.

*Treasury of Malta, December 31, 1856.*

			£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	
Effects	-	-	Cash	117,203	6	9	-	119,845	5	3
			Advances	2,641	18	6				
Dehts	-	-	Deposits	-	-	-		74,823	8	2½
			Surplus Capital	-				45,021	17	0¾
Liabilities:—										
The Revenue of December, reserved to meet the expenditure of that month, payable in January 1857 - - - 10,318 12 11½										
The portion of expenditure remaining undrfayed, as above stated - 13,137 15 0										
								23,456	7	11½
			Available Surplus	-			£21,565	9	1½	

Audit Office, Valetta,  
April 9, 1857.

(Signed)    Wm. H. THORNTON,  
Auditor General.



## IONIAN ISLANDS.

IONIAN ISLANDS.

No. 41.

No. 41.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. Sir JOHN YOUNG, Bart., to the  
Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE, M. P.

(No. 49.)

SIR,

Corfu, July 18, 1857.

(Received August 6, 1857.)

I HAVE the honor herewith to transmit the Blue Book of the Ionian  
Islands for the Year 1856, together with the customary annual report.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) JOHN YOUNG.

The Right Hon. Henry Labouchere, M.P.

&amp;c.

&amp;c.

&amp;c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK for the financial year ending the  
31st January 1857.

## REVENUE.

*Increase.*

The principal taxes in the Ionian Islands being export duties on the staple produce of oil and currants, the general revenue varies according to the success of those crops. An abundant harvest has caused an increase in 1856 over 1855 of 56,175*l.*, the gross amount of the revenue in the former year being 184,645*l.* and in the latter 127,471*l.* It will be observed that a good crop of oil and currants influences the revenue, not only *directly* by raising the export duties, but also *indirectly* by enriching the population in general, and so enabling the inhabitants of these states to import and consume a greater number of foreign articles subject to duty. Hence not only do the export duties on olive oil show an increase in 1856 of 24,238*l.* 0*s.* 11*d.* and those on currants of 20,952*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.*, but also the general import duties (denominated "customs") exhibit an increase of 9,100*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*, while there is, moreover, a very considerable augmentation in the special imports of tobacco, grain, gunpowder, and foreign wines and spirits.

Nor does the influence of the improved crops on the revenue stop even here. The landlords and other creditors have taken advantage of their debtors being in better circumstances to compel the payment of arrears of rent and other obligations; hence the increase which will be remarked in the items of stamps, police dues, judicial and registration fees, &c. Commerce and correspondence, stimulated by the same causes, have produced larger returns from the post office and the bonding warehouses. Finally, the increase of payments under the head of public instruction is accounted for by the improved position of the higher classes augmenting the number of students in the college, and to the recovery by that department of some outstanding debts.

*Decrease.*

The chief heads of general revenue showing a decrease are :—

Export duty on wines grown in the islands—of which the islanders themselves were in 1856 able to purchase and consume a larger quantity, and thus leave less for exportation.

Health office dues—which have decreased in consequence of the abolition in the Ionian Islands as elsewhere of many of the vexatious and superfluous quarantine restrictions, which until quite recently impeded the commerce and navigation of the Mediterranean. The great increase of steamers, and the

IONIAN ISLANDS. progress of more enlightened opinions of contagion, have combined to bring about this desirable result.

Freight by the Ionian steamers—which have now ceased to run regularly, the extension of the lines of the Austrian Lloyd's Company having rendered unnecessary this heavy charge on the revenue of a small state.

Miscellaneous.—Under this head appears a decrease of 4,727*l.*, owing to the removal of the temporary reduction of 10 per cent. on the salaries of public servants, necessitated by the depression of the revenue during the years of failure of crops.

#### EXPENDITURE.

##### *Increase.*

Under the head of education there is an increased expenditure over 1855 of 847*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.*, in consequence of a larger number of students having been admitted during this year into the college and seminary, while the price of provisions has doubled.

The increase of 158*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.*, which appears under the head of collection of revenue, &c., is accounted for by the necessity of the employment of extra assistants to meet the increased demands of the service. Similar is the cause of the small increase under the head of courts of justice, &c.

In the contingent expenditure there is an increase of 1,777*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.*, which is principally to be ascribed to the payments made to two Ionian families, in part liquidation of their claims on the Government.

##### *Decrease.*

The decrease of 3,202*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* that appears under the head of the Legislative Assembly is caused by there having been no session in 1856 (the meetings of the Ionian Parliament being biennial), and consequently the usual payments not having been issued to the members.

The decrease in the civil and judicial establishments arises from the reduction of certain salaries and places.

The decrease of 541*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.* in the department of public works is caused chiefly by the removal of the steam dredger lately employed in deepening the harbour of Zante.

Several small items of decreased expenditure are casualties, or arise from causes which have been already explained above.

#### LOCAL REVENUE.

The local revenues of these islands are subject to the same influences as the general revenue, and show an increase over 1855 of 13,158*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.*, which is to be ascribed to similar causes.

The late abundant crops have enabled the holders of Government lands to pay up some of their arrears. The road tax, which is an impost of 1½ per cent. on exports, has produced an increase of 3,536*l.* The improved circumstances of the population have enabled them to augment the revenue by the payment of an increase of 487*l.* for arms licences, principally for fowling pieces.

Under the head of *salines* appears an increase of nearly 3,000*l.*, in consequence of a greater demand for Ionian salt in foreign markets. The same cause has produced an augmentation of 581*l.* for export duty on Zante soap.

Besides other small items, there is a decrease in the municipal expenditure of 1,973*l.*, which is mainly to be attributed to the cessation of the cholera, and to the consequent reduction of the expenses caused by that epidemic.

#### PUBLIC DEBT.

The augmentation of the revenue during 1856 has enabled the executive Government to reduce the public debt by 47,200*l.*, by paying off the sums which were borrowed to supply the deficiencies of former years.

On the whole, the present financial position of the Ionian Islands affords ground for much satisfaction.

The receipts of the year have, perhaps, exceeded what might reasonably have been expected, for the customs have steadily improved, although here, as at

Malta, the price of provisions has doubled since the commencement of the Russian war, and their continued dearness has tended to lessen the importation of various articles subject to duty.

Certain classes of the population have benefited largely by the high prices, arising from the demands of the garrison and shipping, and for the supply of the army and of the naval and military establishments in the East. But it is equally certain that the long-continued dearness of most of the necessaries of life has pressed severely on numerous families, such as those of many of the public employes, &c., which depend chiefly or entirely on scanty and fixed incomes.

It is to be hoped that the main cause of the recent dearth having been removed prices will gradually return to a more normal state.

#### MILITARY CONTRIBUTION.

During the year 1856, the annual military contribution of £5,000*l.* has been regularly and fully paid.

#### JUDICIAL ESTABLISHMENT.

There has been no material change in the judicial establishment during 1856.

#### ECCLESIASTICAL ESTABLISHMENT.

No material alteration.

#### EDUCATION.

There was no change in the system of public instruction during 1856; but a bill will be laid before the Ionian Legislative Assembly in the session of 1857, embodying various important reforms, which, if they become law, will, it is expected, greatly improve this important branch of the service.

#### POPULATION.

An elaborate census of the Ionian Islands was taken in 1856, with every care to ensure the greatest possible accuracy. A "numbering of the people" has always been, for many reasons, a difficult and delicate process in the East; and that it should prove so in this country will not be a matter of surprise to those who recollect the difficulty which has attended the taking of the census in Ireland, and which still attends the collection of agricultural statistics in England. It appears that the aggregate population has been recently over estimated, the more careful census of 1856 showing only 227,106, as compared with the return of 240,080, in 1855. It is to be observed, however, that there was a considerable excess of deaths over births in 1855, in consequence of the cholera having broken out in the latter part of that year in the three principal islands of Corfu, Cephalonia, and Zante. It is also certain that a large portion of the floating population took their departure during the Russian war to seek their fortunes as camp-followers in the Crimea, and at the naval and military establishments at Constantinople, Smyrna, &c., and that a considerable part of this number has never returned to these islands. Still, in 1856, there appears an excess of births over deaths, and the aggregate population of these states has been steadily (though slowly, when compared with the newly settled English colonies,) on the increase during the last 40 years. Previously to 1815 it had been stationary, if not decreasing, during two hundred years; for in the 17th century Corfu appears, from a census taken by the Venetians, to whom it then belonged, to have contained 51,000 inhabitants, which was above its population when first placed under the British protectorate, since a careful census taken by the French Government in 1809 showed only 45,000. Corfu now (1856) contains 67,930 inhabitants, exclusive of the British garrison.

#### AGRICULTURE.

The agriculture of the Ionian Islands revived in 1856, after the depressing effects of the failure for many successive seasons of the staple crops of oil and currants. The sprinkling of sulphur on the currant-vines during the spring has been found an efficient remedy in these islands, as elsewhere, against

IONIAN ISLANDS. the blight which had ruined their produce for several previous years. It is hoped that the application of capital and enterprise will introduce other scientific improvements.

General cultivation is rapidly extending, especially in Corfu, where the constant demand for fruit and vegetables for the supply of the English garrison, and of the great number of steamers which now visit this port and lay in their stock here, has covered with flourishing market gardens all the ground in the neighbourhood of the town.

#### COMMERCE.

The commerce of the Ionian Islands has greatly increased during the last few years. The thriving trade with the Russian ports of the Black Sea was reopened in 1856, at the close of the late war. Corfu, in particular, has now become the chief centre of steam communication in this part of the Mediterranean, and its prosperity is continually increasing. It is already an important depôt for British manufactures, which can be transmitted easily from its bounding warehouses to all the ports of the neighbouring countries. An almost unlimited field for trade is now open, and easily accessible from Corfu, in the neighbouring provinces of European Turkey, the principal harbours of which are connected with this port by weekly steamers and by numerous coasting vessels. There is also regular and frequent steam communication with Trieste, Venice, Ancona, and all the other chief ports of the Adriatic; with Constantinople and the Black Sea; with Syra, Smyrna, and the Levant generally; with Patras and the rest of Greece; with Messina, Palermo, and Italy; with Gibraltar and England by English mercantile screw steamers; and with Alexandria. A large portion of the passenger traffic to Egypt and India now passes by Corfu, which is as essential to the safety and convenience of the route to the East by Trieste as Malta is to the safety and convenience of the routes by Marseilles and Gibraltar.

G. F. BOWEN,

Secretary to the Lord High Commissioner.

Palace, Corfu,  
18th July 1857.

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LONDON:

Printed by GEORGE F. ETRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,  
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty,  
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

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CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

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RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons,  
dated 19 February 1858 *pro*,

COPIES " of accepted TENDER from the Union Steam Navigation Company,  
and of the CONTRACT with that Company for the Conveyance of Her  
Majesty's MAILS between this Country and the *Cape of Good Hope*."

Admiralty, }  
1 March 1858. }

C. H. PENNELL,  
Chief Clerk.

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CAPE OF GOOD HOPE MAILS.

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ARTICLES of AGREEMENT made the twelfth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven between Arthur Anderson of Norwood in the county of Surrey esquire Edward Dixon of the town and county of the town of Southampton merchant Henry Faudel of Newgate-street in the city of London merchant Patrick Douglas Hadow of Regent's-park in the county of Middlesex esquire and Thomas Hill of the town and county of the town of Southampton merchant (Directors of the Union Steam Ship Company (limited) of the one part and the Commissioners for executing the office of Lord High Admiral of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland (for and on behalf of Her Majesty) of the other part

WITNESS that the said Arthur Anderson Edward Dixon Henry Faudel Patrick Douglas Hadow and Thomas Hill (hereinafter designated as the said Company) in consideration of the payments hereinafter stipulated to be made do for and on behalf of the said Company separately for themselves their heirs executors and administrators and each and every of them doth for himself his heirs executors and administrators hereby covenant promise and agree to and with the said Commissioners that they the said Company shall and will at their own cost and charge at all times during the continuance of this contract provide maintain keep seaworthy and in complete repair and readiness for the purpose of conveying as hereinafter provided all Her Majesty's mails which shall at any time or times or from time to time by the said Commissioners or Her Majesty's Postmaster-general be required to be conveyed once each way every calendar month between the United Kingdom and the Cape of Good Hope on the south coast of Africa by means of a sufficient number of good substantial and efficient steam vessels (not less than five) each and every of such vessels to be of not less than five hundred and thirty tons register new measurement and always supplied with first-rate appropriate steam-engines of not less than sixty nominal horse-power nor less than two hundred and eighty indicated horse-power

That all the vessels employed under this contract shall be always supplied and furnished with all necessary and proper machinery engines apparel furniture stores tackle boats fuel oil tallow provisions anchors cables fire pumps and other proper means for extinguishing fire lightning conductors on Sir Snow Harris's or other approved principle charts chronometers proper nautical instruments medicines medicaments and whatsoever else may be requisite and necessary for equipping the said vessels and rendering them constantly efficient for the service hereby contracted to be performed and also manned and provided with competent officers with appropriate certificates granted pursuant to the Act 17 and 18 Victoria chapter 104 or to the Act or Acts in force for the time being relative to

the granting certificates to officers in the merchant service and also a medical officer to be approved of by the said Commissioners and who shall give medical attendance medicines and medicaments gratis to all persons conveyed under or by virtue of this agreement or whose passage-money may be paid for in whole or in part by the public and with a sufficient number of efficient engineers and a sufficient crew of able seamen and other men to be in all respects as to vessels engines equipments engineers officers and crew subject in the first instance and from time to time and at all times afterwards to the approval of the said Commissioners and of such other persons as shall at any time or times or from time to time have authority under the said Commissioners to inspect and examine the same and the said Company shall previously to any vessel being built for or which is intended to be employed in the performance of this contract submit the designs plans and sections of such and every of such vessels to the said Commissioners and be bound to adopt such fittings scantling and such dispositions of hatchways as the said Commissioners shall declare in writing to be necessary

That the said Company shall and will during the continuance of this contract in every case diligently faithfully and to the satisfaction of the said Commissioners and with all possible speed convey Her Majesty's mails on board the said vessels respectively as hereinafter mentioned. That one of such vessels so approved of and equipped and manned as aforesaid and with Her Majesty's mails on board shall on the 15th day of September instant for the first time and in every succeeding calendar month on such day and at such hour as shall at any time or times or from time to time be appointed by the said Commissioners and immediately after Her Majesty's mails are embarked put to sea from Devonport in the county of Devon or from such other port or ports in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland as shall at any time or times as hereinafter mentioned by the said Commissioners be directed and proceed without loss of time to Table Bay Cape of Good Hope aforesaid where she shall arrive and land the mails in forty-two days from the time of her departure from Devonport or such other port or ports in the United Kingdom as the case may be

That one of such vessels so approved of and equipped and manned as aforesaid shall on the 1st day of December now next ensuing for the first time and in every succeeding calendar month on such day and at such hour as shall at any time or times or from time to time be appointed by the said Commissioners and immediately after Her Majesty's mails are embarked put to sea from Table Bay Cape of Good Hope and proceed to Devonport aforesaid or to such other port or ports in the United Kingdom as shall by the said Commissioners be directed and she shall arrive at Devonport or such other port in the United Kingdom as aforesaid in forty-two days from the time of her departure from the Cape of Good Hope

That all vessels employed in the conveyance of Her Majesty's mails between the United Kingdom and the Cape of Good Hope shall touch at the islands of St. Helena and Ascension on their homeward voyages and the said Company shall convey in the said vessels to and from and cause to be delivered and received at each of the ports or places at which the said vessels are to proceed or touch in performance of this contract all such of Her Majesty's mails as shall have to be delivered or received thereat

That the said Company shall always deliver at the Cape of Good Hope aforesaid the outward mail from England in forty-two days and shall deliver at Devonport or such other port in the United Kingdom as aforesaid the homeward mail from the Cape of Good Hope in forty-two days in each case from the day of each vessel's departure from Devonport or such other port in the United Kingdom as aforesaid and the Cape of Good Hope respectively but should the said Company fail from whatever cause arising to deliver the same at the said places in the respective periods hereinbefore mentioned and referred to then and in such case the said Company shall forfeit and pay to Her Majesty Her heirs and successors the sum of 25 *l.* for the first day beyond the stipulated periods and a further sum of 50 *l.* for every successive day consumed on the respective voyages beyond the respective number of days hereinbefore mentioned but the full amount of such penalties on any one voyage shall in no single case exceed the amount to be paid for such voyage

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And the said Commissioners on the part of Her Majesty do hereby agree to pay to the said Company a premium of 50 £ for each and every twenty-four hours within which the said mails either on the outward or homeward voyage shall be delivered less the number of days herein provided for the conveyance and delivery of mails at the Cape of Good Hope and the proper port in the United Kingdom

And the said Company do hereby further agree with the said Commissioners that whenever they the said Company fail to provide an efficient vessel in accordance with the terms of this contract ready to put to sea at the appointed day and at the appointed hour or whenever any such vessel shall delay her departure from any of the ports or places herein mentioned or referred to beyond the periods hereinbefore agreed upon then and in such case and as often as the same shall happen the said Company shall forfeit and pay unto Her Majesty Her heirs and successors the sum of 50 £ and also the further sum of 10 £ for every successive period of one hour which shall elapse until such vessel shall actually proceed to sea on her voyage in the performance of this contract.

Provided always that the said Company shall not be liable to any penalties for delay in proceeding to sea on the day and at the hour fixed if such delay be proved to the satisfaction of the said Commissioners to have arisen from circumstances over which the said Company and their servants had not and could not have had any control

That the said Company shall at all times during the continuance of this contract have in constant readiness for the due execution of the service hereby contracted to be performed vessels equal in tonnage and efficiency to those hereinbefore stipulated to be provided and shall in every case of any of the said vessels becoming disabled immediately at their own cost and charge replace the same by good and efficient vessels of similar tonnage obtained by hire or otherwise

That the said Company shall receive and allow to remain on board each of the said vessels so to be and while employed in the performance of this contract and also while remaining at each or either of the ports or places for return mails and with or without mails in charge an officer in Her Majesty's Navy to be appointed by the said Commissioners to take charge of the said mails and also a servant of the said officer if required and that every such officer shall be recognised and considered by the said Company and their officers agents and seamen as the agent of the said Commissioners in charge of Her Majesty's mails and as having full authority in all cases to require a due and strict execution of this contract on the part of the said Company their officers servants and agents and to determine every question whenever arising relative to proceeding to sea or putting into harbour or to the necessity of stopping to assist any vessel in distress or to save human life and that the decision of such officer as aforesaid shall in each and every such cases be final and binding on the said Company unless the said Commissioners on appeal by the said Company shall think proper to decide otherwise but it is understood the above expression "to determine every question" shall not confer upon such officer the power of compulsion in such cases

That if the said Commissioners at any time or times think fit they shall be at liberty in any case or cases to substitute for the said naval officer an officer in the service of Her Majesty's Postmaster-general to have charge of the said mails and in such case or cases any such last-mentioned officer and also a servant of the said officer if required shall be received and be allowed to remain on board each of the said vessels as is hereinbefore provided with respect to any such naval officer and his servant but when any officer in the service of Her Majesty's Post Office has the charge of the said mails his duties shall be confined to Post Office business

That a suitable first-class cabin with appropriate bed bedding and furniture shall at the cost of the said Company be provided and appropriated by them for and to the exclusive use and for the sole accommodation of every such officer and also a proper and convenient place of deposit on board with secure lock and key for Her Majesty's mails and that each and every of the said officers shall be victualled by the said Company as a chief cabin passenger without any charge being made either for his passage or victualling and that should all or any of

#### 4. RETURN RELATING TO THE MAIL SERVICE BETWEEN

sub officers require a servant such servant shall be also provided with a proper and suitable berth and be duly victualled by and at the cost of the said Company without any charge being made for the same.

That Her Majesty's mails shall be delivered and received at each of the places to which the said vessels are to proceed in the performance of this contract and that at each port or place where the said mails are to be delivered and received the said officer having charge of Her Majesty's mails shall whenever and as often as by him deemed practicable or necessary be conveyed on shore and also from the shore to the vessel employed for the time being in the performance of this contract together with or (if such officer consider requisite for the purposes of this contract) without Her Majesty's mails in a suitable and seaworthy boat of not less than four oars to be furnished with effectual covering for the mail bags and properly provided manned and equipped by the said Company and that the directions of the said officer shall in all cases be obeyed as to the mode time and place of receiving and delivering Her Majesty's mails.

That if the said Commissioners shall during the continuance of this contract or of any part thereof think fit to intrust the charge and custody of the mails to the masters of all or any of the vessels to be employed in the performance of this contract and in all cases when the officer or other person appointed to have charge of Her Majesty's mails shall be absent the masters of all or any of such vessels shall without any charge to the public take due care of and the said Company shall be responsible for the receipt safe custody and delivery of the said mails and each of such masters shall make the usual oath or declaration or declarations required or which may hereafter be required by Her Majesty's Postmaster-general in such and similar cases and furnish such journals returns and information to and perform such services as the said Commissioners or any of their agents may require and every such master having the charge of such mails shall himself immediately on the arrival at any of the said ports or places of any vessel so conveying the same deliver all Her Majesty's mails for such port or place into the hands of the postmaster of the port or place where such mails are to be delivered or into the hands of such other person as the said Commissioners shall direct and authorise to receive the same receiving in like manner all the return or other mails to be forwarded in due course.

That the said Company shall not nor shall any of the masters of any of the vessels employed or to be employed under this contract receive or permit to be received on board any of the vessels employed under this contract any letters for conveyance other than those duly in charge of the said naval officer or other person authorised to have charge of the said mails under or by virtue of this contract or which are or may be privileged by law and the said naval officer or other person shall report to the said Commissioners any default in this respect and in case of any such default the said Company shall be liable to be proceeded against for a breach of this contract.

That every naval officer authorised to have the charge of the said mails shall either alone or with such other persons as he may consider necessary have full power and authority as often as he may deem it requisite to examine and survey in such manner and with the assistance of such persons as he may think proper any of the vessels employed or to be employed in the performance of this contract and the hulls machinery equipments and crew thereof on his giving reasonable notice in writing to the master for the time being of the vessel about to be examined or to the person acting as such of such his intention and if any defect or deficiency be ascertained and notice thereof in writing be given to such master or person and if the said master shall not immediately or as soon as possible thereupon remedy replace or effectively repair or make good every such defect or deficiency the said Company shall in every such case forfeit and pay to Her Majesty Her heirs and successors the sum of 100*l*. but the payment of such penalty shall not in anywise release or discharge the said Company from remedying replacing or effectively repairing or making good such deficiency or defect or from being considered to have committed a breach of this contract and that the said Commissioners shall also have full power whenever and as often as they may deem it requisite to survey by any of their officers or agents all or every the vessels employed and to be employed in the performance of this contract and the hulls thereof and the engines machinery furniture tackle apparel

stores



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stores equipments and the officers engineers and crew of every such vessel the said vessels to be opened in their hulls whenever the said officers may require and if any such vessels or any part thereof or any engines machinery furniture tackle apparel boats stores or equipments shall on any such survey be declared by any of such officers or agents unseaworthy or not adapted to the service hereby contracted to be performed or if the said Commissioners shall deem it necessary or expedient that any alteration or improvement shall be made therein or any part thereof in order to keep pace with the more advanced state of science every vessel which shall be disapproved of or in which such deficiency defect or want of improvement shall appear shall be deemed inefficient for any service hereby contracted to be performed and shall not be employed again in the conveyance of Her Majesty's mails until such defect or deficiency shall have been repaired or supplied or the alterations or improvements as the case may be shall have been made to the satisfaction of the said Commissioners and if employed before such defect or deficiency shall have been supplied or such alterations or improvements as the case may be shall have been made to the satisfaction of the said Commissioners the said Company shall forfeit and pay to Her Majesty Her heirs and successors the sum of 500 l.

That the said Company and all commanding and other officers of the vessels to be employed in the performance of this contract and all agents seamen and servants of the said Company shall at all times during the continuance of this contract punctually attend to the orders and directions of the said Commissioners or of any of their officers or agents as to the landing delivering and receiving Her Majesty's mails

That the said Company shall and will when and as often as in writing they and the masters of their respective vessels shall be required so to do by the said Commissioners or by such naval or other officers or agents acting under their authority (such writing to specify the rank or description of the person or persons to be conveyed and the accommodation to be provided for him or them) receive provide for victual and convey to and from and between the places to which any of the vessels are to proceed in the performance of this contract on board each and every or any of the vessels to be employed in the performance of this contract (in addition to the naval or other officer authorised to have charge of the said mails) any number of naval military and civil officers in the service of Her Majesty not exceeding four in any one ship with or without their wives and children as chief cabin passengers and any number of non-commissioned and warrant officers or civilians in Her Majesty's service not exceeding two in any one ship with or without their wives and children as fore-cabin passengers together with the servants of both chief and fore-cabin passengers and any number of seamen marines soldiers or artificers in Her Majesty's service not exceeding ten in any one ship with or without their wives and children as deck passengers to be always provided with effectual protection from rain sun and bad weather and not exposed on deck without such competent shelter a fortnight's notice being given if practicable to the said Company or to their agent at the port of embarkation and all such passengers shall be permitted to ship the quantity of baggage allowed by the said Company to ordinary passengers of similar rank free of all charge for the conveyance of the same

That commissioned officers their wives and children shall be considered as chief cabin passengers non-commissioned and warrant officers their wives and children as fore-cabin passengers and seamen marines private soldiers artificers and their wives and children as deck passengers and the said servants (in respect of accommodation) as the servants of chief cabin passengers

That the victualling of officers their wives and children conveyed as chief cabin passengers shall be the same as is usually allowed by the said Company to chief cabin passengers their wives and children the victualling of non-commissioned officers their wives and children conveyed as fore-cabin passengers shall be the same as is allowed to the boatswain and carpenter of the said Company's steam ships and the victualling of seamen marines soldiers and artificers their wives and children conveyed as deck passengers shall be the same as is allowed to the seamen of the said Company's steam ships and the victualling of the servants of officers whether chief or fore-cabin passengers shall be the same as the servants of other chief or fore-cabin passengers

## 6 RETURN RELATING TO THE MAIL SERVICE BETWEEN

That the passage money shall be paid in full of all charge for mess including a pint of port or good foreign white wine and one bottle of malt liquor per day for each officer conveyed as a chief cabin passenger and half-a-gill of spirits per day or an equivalent if not issued for each warrant officer non-commissioned officer seaman marine soldier artificer and servant conveyed as a fore-cabin or a deck passenger at and after the rates charged by the said Company for ordinary passengers of a similar description the said Company carrying children under three years of age free and charging for male servants one-half and for female servants two-thirds of the rates charged for their employers

That the payment for the passage ordered at the expense of the public for any person shall only be made on the production of the order for the passage and of a certificate from the person in the following form namely

"I hereby certify that on the \_\_\_\_\_ I embarked at  
as a \_\_\_\_\_ passenger on board the mail steam packet \_\_\_\_\_ for a  
passage to \_\_\_\_\_ and landed at \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_"

To this certificate the following addition is to be made in any case of a male cabin passenger namely

"I further certify that the first dinner meal taken on board was on the \_\_\_\_\_  
and the last dinner meal on the \_\_\_\_\_"

"Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_"

And the correctness of the dates must be corroborated by the master of the packet adding underneath the passenger's signature

"The dates inserted in this certificate are correct

("Signature") Master of the Packet

That the passage money for the families and wives of officers shall be paid to the said Company by the officers themselves at the rates charged for ordinary passengers of a similar description their children under three years of age being conveyed free of charge

That the passengers hereinbefore mentioned or referred to are to be exclusive of any men to be sent home under the provisions of the Act 17 and 18 Victoria cap. 104 the rate of passage for whom is to be and to be paid for in accordance with the provisions of that Act

That whoever the said Company shall convey any soldiers or deck passengers other than those specially provided for by this contract the said Company shall provide them with adequate protection from rain sun and bad weather and they shall not be exposed on deck without such competent shelter

That the said Company shall and will receive on board each and every of the said vessels employed in the performance of this contract any number of small packages containing astronomical instruments charts wearing apparel medicines or other articles and convey and deliver the same to from and between the said ports or places to or from which the said mails are to be conveyed in the performance of this contract when and as often as directed by the said Commissioners or their agent or by the British naval officer in command of the station or at any port where the vessel may touch to the extent of 20 cubic feet in any one ship free from all costs and charges and also shall and will receive on board each and every of the said vessels and convey and deliver to from and between all or any of the said ports or places any naval or other stores not exceeding 10 tons in weight or measurement at any one time in any one vessel at the rate of freight charged by the said Company for private goods on receiving from the said Commissioners or any of their officers or agents two days' previous notice of its being their intention to have such stores so conveyed and that the said Company shall in all cases be strictly responsible for the due custody and safe delivery of the said packages articles and stores.

And it is hereby agreed that the said Commissioners shall be at liberty at their discretion to change at any time or times the port of departure and arrival in the United Kingdom of the said vessels with Her Majesty's mails on giving to

# ENGLAND AND THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

to the said Company three calendar months' previous notice in writing under the hand of the Secretary of the Admiralty and the said Company shall comply with every such direction and that if at any time or times during the continuance of this contract the said Commissioners shall deem it requisite to alter the particular days times and hours of departure from and arrival at any of the ports or places to or from which Her Majesty's mails are to be conveyed under or by virtue of this contract they shall be at liberty at any time or times or from time to time to alter the days and hours of departure and arrival on giving one calendar month's notice in writing of such their intention to the said Company and the particular days times and hours of departure from and arrival at any of such ports or places which may be appointed by any such alteration in force for the time being shall be deemed to be the days times and hours of departure and arrival of Her Majesty's mails under this contract and shall be observed and kept by the said Company accordingly

And in consideration of the due and faithful performance by the said Company of all the services hereby contracted to be by them performed the said Commissioners do hereby agree that there shall be paid to the said Company so long as they perform the whole of the said service by bills payable by Her Majesty's Paymaster-general in seven days from and after the respective dates thereof a sum after the rate of 33000 *l.* per annum (and excepting the first payment) in equal quarterly payments with a proportionate part thereof should this contract terminate on any other day than a day of quarterly payment and which payments shall be made in manner following that is to say there shall be paid to the said Company on the 31st day of December 1857 a proportionate part of the said sum of 33000 *l.* per annum to be calculated from the day on which the first vessel shall leave Devonport or such other port in the United Kingdom according to the provisions of this contract up to and including the said 31st day of December 1857

One fourth part of the said sum of 33000 *l.* shall be paid to the said Company on the 31st day of March next in consideration of the six entire voyages to be performed by the said Company during the quarter ending on that day and upon the production to the Accountant-general of Her Majesty's Navy of certificates in such form as may be directed by the said Commissioners that the contract has been strictly and punctually performed for the outward voyages of September October November and December 1857 and of the homeward voyages of the 1st and 30th December 1857 and January 1858

One other fourth part thereof shall be paid to the said Company on the 30th day of June 1858 in consideration of the six entire voyages to be performed by the said Company during the quarter ending on that day and upon the production of the said certificates for the outward voyages of January February and March 1858 and for the homeward voyages of February March and April 1858

## EXAMPLE

		On 1st Dec. 1857	31st March 1858	30th June 1858
Certificates to be produced	No certificate	-	Outward for Sept. 1857	Outward for Jan. 1858
			" Oct. "	" Feb. "
			" Nov. "	" March "
			" Dec. "	Homeward for Feb. "
			Homeward 1 Dec. "	" March "
			" 30 Dec. "	" April "
			" Jan. 1858	

and in like manner one-fourth part of the said sum at the expiration of each succeeding quarter in consideration of the six entire voyages to be performed by the said Company during such quarter and upon the production of the said

certificates of six entire voyages that is to say of one homeward voyage of the quarter for which payment is made and of two homeward and three outward voyages of the preceding quarter subject however to the deduction of any sum or sums of money due by the said Company to Her Majesty and of the amount of any fines or penalties to which the said Company are liable and with the proper addition if any of any premium which may have been acquired. Provided always that if such certificates as are hereinbefore required to be produced be not produced by the said Company previous to each such payment a sum proportionate to the number of entire voyages for which such certificates are not produced is to be deducted from the said payment leaving the sum so deducted or the proportionate amount thereof for each entire voyage to be paid upon the production of the requisite certificate or certificates for the said voyages subject always to the abatement of penalties or the addition of premiums as the case may be

And it is hereby agreed that in the event of this contract being terminated or of any other discontinuance of the service hereby agreed to be performed the said Commissioners shall have power to stop or suspend all payments which may be payable to the said Company until evidence be adduced by the said certificates and otherwise as to whether there be or be not any balance due to the said Company at the termination of this contract and if there be not any balance due to the said Company to withhold such payments altogether

Provided always that a deduction after the rate of 800 £. per annum shall be made from the said annual payment of 33000 £. in case and so long as or while no accommodation shall be required by the said Commissioners for any naval or post-office officer in charge of the mails

And it is hereby agreed that the said Commissioners for executing the office of Lord High Admiral shall at any time during the continuance of this contract if they shall consider it necessary for the public interest have power and be at liberty to purchase all or any of the said vessels at a valuation or to charter the same exclusively for Her Majesty's service at a rate of hire to be mutually fixed and agreed on by them and the said Company but if any difference should at any time or times arise as to the amount of valuation or hire so to be paid such difference shall be referred to two arbitrators one to be chosen from time to time by the said Commissioners and the other by the said Company and if such arbitrators should at any time or times not agree in the matter or question referred to them then such question in difference shall be referred by them to an umpire to be chosen by such arbitrators before they proceed with the reference to them and the joint and concurrent awards of the said arbitrators or the separate award of the said umpire when the said arbitrators cannot agree shall be binding and conclusive upon all parties and that the said Commissioners in the case of hiring any such vessel shall return the same to the said Company in the same state and condition as she was in at the time of any such hiring reasonable wear and tear excepted and if any difference should arise upon that point the same shall be settled in the same manner as the amount for the hiring is to be settled in case of difference

And it is further agreed that in case of such purchase or hire the service hereby contracted to be performed shall be performed by other vessels of the said Company of a similar description to the vessel or vessels purchased or hired if they can in due and proper time furnish them such other vessels as to construction machinery equipment and crew to be subject to the same approval as other vessels employed under this contract

And it is agreed that any submission which may be made to arbitration in pursuance of this contract shall be made a rule of Her Majesty's Court of Exchequer pursuant to the statute in that case made and provided and that any witnesses examined upon any reference may be examined upon oath

And it is hereby agreed that the whole postage of all mails despatches and letters of every description conveyed in the vessels employed under this contract whether carried from or out of Her Majesty's dominions or otherwise shall belong to Her Majesty and shall be at the disposal of Her Majesty's Postmaster-general

And

And it is hereby agreed and declared that this contract shall commence on and continue in force for five years from the 12th day of September 1857. And at the expiration of such five years this contract shall determine accordingly but not so as to prevent either of the said parties hereto availing themselves of this contract for recovering any sum of money or damages should there have been any breach of this contract previously to the determination of the same.

And it is hereby distinctly agreed that the said Company shall undertake for themselves all arrangements relative to quarantine as connected with the due and regular performance of the conditions of this contract.

And it is hereby further agreed and provided that without the consent of the said Commissioners signified in writing under the hand of one of their secretaries neither this contract nor any part thereof shall be assigned underlet or disposed of and that in case of the same or any part thereof being assigned underlet or otherwise disposed of without such consent signified as aforesaid or in case of any breach of this contract on the part of the said Company their officers agents or servants in any respect and whether there be or be not any penalty or sum of money hereby made payable by the said Company for any such breach it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners for executing the said office of Lord High Admiral (if they think fit and notwithstanding there may or may not have been any former breach of this contract) by writing under the hand of one of their secretaries for the time being to determine this contract without any previous notice to the said Company or their agents nor shall the said Company be entitled to any compensation in consequence of such determination but even if this contract be so determined the payment of the sum of money hereinafter agreed to be made shall be enforced should the same be not duly paid by the said Company and the said Company shall continue liable for any liability which they may have incurred previous to any such determination.

And it is also agreed that the notices or directions which the same Commissioners or their secretary officers or other persons are hereby authorised and empowered to give to the said Company their officers servants or agents may at the option of such Commissioners or their secretary officers or other persons be either delivered to the master of any of the said vessels or other officer or agent of the said Company in the charge or management of any vessel employed in the performance of this contract or may be left for the said Company at their office or house of business in Southampton or at their or any of their last known places of business or abode and any notices or directions so given or left shall be binding on the said Company.

And in pursuance of the directions contained in a certain Act of Parliament made and passed in the twenty-second year of the reign of King George III. intituled "An Act for restraining any person concerned in any contract commission or agreement made for the public service from being elected or sitting and voting as a Member of the House of Commons" it is hereby expressly declared and agreed and these presents are upon this express condition that no Member of the House of Commons is or shall be admitted to any share or part of this contract or agreement or to any benefit to arise therefrom.

And it is hereby agreed that if when this contract or any part thereof terminates any vessel or vessels should have started or should start with the mails in conformity with this contract such voyage or voyages shall be continued and performed and the mails be delivered and received during the same as if this contract remained in force with regard to any such vessels and services but the said Company shall not be entitled to any payment or compensation for the same.

That all and every the sums of money hereby stipulated to be forfeited and paid by the said Company unto Her Majesty Her heirs and successors shall be considered as stipulated or ascertained damages and shall and may be deducted and retained by the said Commissioners out of any monies payable or which may thereafter be payable to the said Company or the payment may be enforced as a debt due to Her Majesty with full costs of suit at the discretion of the said Commissioners.

And lastly for the due and faithful performance of all and singular the covenants conditions provisions clauses articles and agreements hereinbefore contained

which on the part and behalf of the said Company are or ought to be observed performed fulfilled and kept the said Company do hereby bind themselves and their successors unto our Sovereign Lady the Queen in the sum of 4000*l.* of lawful money of the United Kingdom to be paid to our said Lady the Queen her heirs and successors by way of stipulated or ascertained damages hereby agreed upon between the said Commissioners and the said Company in case of the failure on the part of the said Company in the due execution of this contract or any part thereof in witness whereof the said parties to these presents have hereunto set their hands and seals and the seal of the said Company hath also been affixed the day and year first above written.

Signed, sealed, and delivered by the said  
Edward Dixon and Thomas Hill in the presence of

*W. H. Buckle,*  
Collector Customs, Southampton.

Sealed with the seal of the Union Steam  
Ship Company, in the presence of

*W. H. Buckle,*  
Collector Customs, Southampton.

Signed, sealed, and delivered by the said  
Patrick Douglas Hadow, in the presence of

*Antonio Brady.*

Signed, sealed, and delivered by the said  
Henry Faudel, and by the said Commissioners,  
in the presence of

*John Doutry.*

(L. S.)  
(Not yet signed, being  
abroad.)

*Edward Dixon.* (L. S.)

*Hy. Faudel.* (L. S.)

*P. D. Hadow.* (L. S.)

*T. Hill.* (L. S.)



*Alex. Milne.* (L. S.)

*Thos. Geo. Baring.* (L. S.)

TABLE of DATES for Departure and Arrival of the Steamers under the *Cape of Good Hope*  
Mail Contract.

SHIPS.	Depart from Devonport.	Arrive at Cape or Symon's Bay.	Depart from Cape or Symon's Bay.	Arrive at Devonport.
No. 1 -	15 September 1857	27 October 1857	1 December 1857	12 January 1858
No. 2 -	15 October -	28 November -	30 - - -	10 February -
No. 3 -	15 November -	27 December -	29 January 1858	12 March -
No. 4 -	15 December -	20 January 1858	30 February -	8 April -
No. 5 -	8 January 1858	17 February -	22 March -	3 May -
No. 1 -	8 February -	20 March -	20 April -	1 June -
No. 2 -	8 March -	17 April -	21 May -	2 July -
No. 3 -	8 April -	16 May -	20 June -	1 August -
No. 4 -	8 May -	17 June -	21 July -	1 September -
No. 5 -	8 June -	18 July -	20 August -	1 October -
No. 1 -	8 July -	17 August -	20 September -	1 November -
No. 2 -	8 August -	17 September -	21 October -	2 December -
No. 3 -	8 September -	18 October -	20 November -	1 January 1859
No. 4 -	8 October -	17 November -	21 December -	1 February -
No. 5 -	8 November -	18 December -	20 January 1859	8 March -
No. 1 -	8 December -	17 January 1859	20 February -	8 April -
No. 2 -	6 January 1859	17 February -	22 March -	8 May -
No. 3 -	6 February -	20 March -	20 April -	1 June -
No. 4 -	8 March -	17 April -	21 May -	2 July -
No. 5 -	6 April -	18 May -	20 June -	1 August -

Departure of mail from Cape Town, 45 days from the date of departure from England, except in the March mail from Cape Town, which will leave on the 44th day. The number of days from England and not the days of the month is to regulate the departures and arrivals.

When the 6th falls on Monday, the packet will leave on the 7th.

An additional day may be allowed for stoppage at Cape Town in the event of the outward ship being behind time; but only by written authority from the Governor.

The time allowed at St. Helena and Ascension is 12 hours each; but in the event of the ship being behind time, the length of stoppage may be made 6 hours only.

(Attested.)

(signed) *Jno. Doutry.*

**TENDER for STEAM VESSELS for performing the MAIL SERVICE between  
England and the Cape of Good Hope.**

Names of Vessels.	Tons by Register N. M.	Where Lying.	Horse Power Effective.	Horse Power.	Draft of Water when ready for Sea, Meas.	Speed under Steam at Sticks Bay.	Proposed Port of Departure, and extra required per Annum if changed without Consent.	Day on which the Vessel will be ready.		No. of Days on the Voyage.	
								For Survey.	Complete for Sea on the part of the Owners.	Out.	Home.
					<i>Feet. in.</i>	<i>Knots per Hour.</i>					
Dane -	330	- -	280	60	14 0	9	- -	8 Sept. -	15 Sept. -	42	40
Norman -	330	- -	280	60	14 0	9	Southamp- ton, 186 <i>l.</i> a month.	20 Sept. -	15 Oct. -	42	40
Celt -	340	- -	320	80	14 3	9		20 Sept. -	15 Nov. -	42	40
Union -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	9	- -	20 Nov. -	15 Dec. -	42	40
Or other ship similar to the above.											

Sir,

Southampton, 27 August 1857.

We hereby offer to THE COMMISSIONERS for EXECUTING THE OFFICE OF LORD HIGH ADMIRAL OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND, the above-mentioned steam vessels for five years, at the rate of 30,000 *l.* per annum, for conveying Her Majesty's mails monthly each way between England and the Cape of Good Hope, subject to the several conditions marked (A), and to an abatement at the rate of 600 *l.* per annum, in case no accommodation should be required for a naval officer in charge of the mails.

In the event of this tender being accepted, we engage that the vessels above-mentioned shall be ready for survey and complete for sea, on or before the respective times above-mentioned, complete on the owner's part in every respect, in failure of which we do hereby engage to forfeit and pay to Her Majesty the sum of 10 *l.* for each day any vessel shall be delayed beyond the respective days above-mentioned, and the Commissioners are, in that case, to have the option of rejecting her altogether.

And we do hereby agree with the said Commissioners to commence the said service on the 15th September next, and to execute a contract according to the said conditions.

We are,

Sir,

Your very humble Servants,

(Signature)

G. Y. Mercer, Secretary.

(Address)

Union Steamship Company (Limited)  
Southampton.

The Secretary of the Admiralty.

*N. B.*—All tenders to be made upon this printed form, and they are to be addressed to the Secretary of the Admiralty, at Somerset-place, with the words "Tender for the Conveyance of Mails," and "Comptroller of Victualling," in the left-hand corner of the envelope, and no tender will be received unless it be made precisely according to the preceding printed form. Any conditions or alterations which the party tendering may wish to suggest must be added to the tender, either at the end of the printed form, or by a separate letter at the time of making the tender.

CONDITIONS of the TENDERS to be received for a Contract for the Conveyance of Mails between *England* and the *Cape of Good Hope*.

(*Referred to as marked A.*)

THE contractors are to engage to convey Her Majesty's mails and despatches between *England* and the *Cape of Good Hope*, monthly, each way, and the tender is to state the time when the parties will be prepared to commence the contract, and the time in which they will undertake to perform the voyage both out and home.

They are to provide a sufficient number of efficient steam-vessels, supplied with competent officers and engineers, and a sufficient crew of able seamen, to be in all respects as to vessels, machinery, equipment, and crew, subject to the approval of the Admiralty, and to provide on board each of the said vessels a convenient, secure, and proper place of deposit under lock and key for the said mails and despatches, and to provide proper boats and whatever may be necessary for the safe embarkation and disembarkation of the said mails and despatches.

The tender is to specify such particulars with respect to the vessels offered for the performance of the contract as are enumerated in the accompanying form.

One of such vessels is to sail monthly to and from such port as the Admiralty may from time to time determine, but the parties tendering are at liberty to restrict their offer to sailing from one particular port, or to mention the compensation they would require in the event of the port being changed without their consent.

The hours of sailing to be fixed from time to time by the Admiralty, a month's notice being given previous to each change.

A penalty of 50 *l.* to be incurred when the contractors fail to provide such steam vessel so equipped and manned as aforesaid ready to put to sea, or when such vessel does not put to sea according to agreement, and also a further sum of 10 *l.* for every successive period of one hour, which shall elapse until such steam vessel shall actually proceed to sea.

For any excess of time occupied in the voyage out or home beyond that contracted for, there shall be paid a penalty of 50 *l.*, and for every successive day a penalty of 100 *l.* but so that such penalties shall in no single case exceed the amount paid for the voyage.

Proper accommodation is to be provided free of expense for the naval officer in charge of the mails; but the parties tendering are at liberty to state whether they would make a deduction in the event of this condition not being required.

The Admiralty to have the power of surveying the vessels by their officers at all proper times, and any defect discovered on such survey to be made good by the contractors under a penalty of 100 *l.*

The contract to be in force for five years.

The whole postage of the letters conveyed in the vessels employed under the contract, whether carried out of Her Majesty's dominions or not, to be at the disposal of Her Majesty's Postmaster-general.

If the contract, or any part thereof, be assigned, underlet, or disposed of without the consent of the Admiralty, or if the contract be deliberately and wilfully broken, or in case of any breach thereof on the part of the contractor, the Admiralty are to have the power of immediately terminating the same.

A penalty



A penalty of 4,000*l.* will be incurred by way of stipulated or ascertained damages, and not as a penalty, in case of the failure of the contractors in the due execution of each and every provision of the contract, and two sureties to that amount will be required, and are with referees to be named at the time of making the tenders.

It is understood that the Admiralty do not engage to accept the lowest tender irrespective of all other considerations, and are not bound necessarily to accept any of the tenders that may be sent in.

(Attested.)

*Jno. Doutry.*

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CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

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COPIES of accepted Tuxen from the Union  
Steam Navigation Company, and of the Con-  
tract with that Company for the Coexistence  
of Her Majesty's Maila between this County  
and the Cape of Good Hope.

(Mr. Ayrton.)

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Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,  
12 March 1858.

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# CAPE OF GOOD HOPE. 38<sup>2</sup>

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## FURTHER PAPERS

RELATIVE TO THE

## STATE OF THE KAFFIR TRIBES.

*(In continuation of Papers presented 21st March 1857.)*

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Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.  
*August 1857.*

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LONDON:

PRINTED BY GEORGE EDWARD EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,  
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1857.

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4/5

# SCHEDULE

## CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

### DESPATCHES FROM GOVERNOR SIR GEORGE GREY.

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7	Sept. 20, 1856 (92.)	PEACEABLE STATE OF AFFAIRS. Reporting that, notwithstanding the rumours in circulation, everything was in a tranquil state. Results of his visits to the native chiefs. Poverty of the Kaffirs in consequence of the loss of their cattle through lung sickness - - -	24	
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9	Sept. 29, 1856 (95.)	PROCEEDINGS OF MOSHESH AND KRELI. Stating that these two chiefs are acting in concert, with a view to disturb the peace of the country by means of the prophet Umhlekaza; but that he is of opinion that their attempts will prove unsuccessful. Enclosing report from the British Resident with the Tambookie tribes - -	31	
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CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.  
—  
Sir G. Grey.

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Right Hon.  
H. Labouchere.

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## CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Right Hon.  
H. Labouchere.

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Despatches from Governor Sir George Grey, Bart., K.C.B. CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

No. 1.

No. 1.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 74.)

Government House, Cape Town,

August 16, 1856.

(Received November 3, 1856.)

Sir,

(Answered, No. 120, November 15, 1856, page 98.)

In my Despatch No. 60.\* of the 14th of July last I transmitted copies of two letters which I had received from Moshesh, Chief of the Basuto nation. Since that date I have received another letter from Moshesh, of which I enclose a copy, as also a copy of my reply to it.

Enclosure

Enclosure No. 2.

2. From this correspondence you will find that Moshesh has now for some time anticipated that he will shortly be attacked by the people of the Orange Free State, and the enclosed copy of a letter from the President of that State in answer to one which I wrote to him on the 23d of July, copy also enclosed, shows that its government appears to have resolved to enter on hostilities at the commencement of next month unless certain demands are complied with. What renders the matter more difficult is that, as the President pointed out in a letter a copy of which I transmitted in my Despatch No. 32.† of the 24th April last, the real cause of the war between Moshesh and the Free State will be the boundary question, whatever other circumstance may be made the pretext for it; and I think it will be now very difficult to settle, without a war, a question which I could have wished to have seen adjusted before we had left the Orange River Sovereignty.

Enclosure No. 3.

Enclosure No. 4.

3. From the correspondence with Moshesh, which I transmitted in my Despatch No. 60.\* of 14th July, it will be seen that he had written in very strong terms to the President regarding a Chief named Witzie, who had been attacked by the Orange Free State, and whose tribe had been, according to Moshesh's accounts, driven to the last extremities. I am informed from a source on which I rely that the Basuto and some of the Kafir tribes are much alarmed from this cause; that an idea has taken possession of their minds that an effort is about to be made to exterminate the native races, and that they may not improbably be induced to take some desperate step from this apprehension.

4. It will be observed from Moshesh's last letter to me, that he puts the direct question, after promising himself to observe a strict neutrality, whether or not we will follow a similar course in reference to the tribes with which he is connected. I have given a general assurance of the desire of the British Government in no way to interfere in disputes beyond the Orange River; but I fear that as long as the treaties stand, which virtually prevent us from entering into treaties with the native tribes to the north, and from supplying them with arms and ammunition, whilst we are bound to permit the European States to procure these, we shall not be regarded in the light of sincere friends by the natives, and if a war does break out that we shall suffer in some direction or the other.

5. It is well that Her Majesty's Government should know that persons, and those good men, well acquainted with the sentiments of some of the tribes to the north of the Orange River, describe in published reports their feelings towards us, in consequence of the manner in which we abandoned the Sovereignty, in such language as this—

\* Vide Papers presented, 21st March 1857, page 46.

† Same Papers, page 20.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

"The Griquas feel that they have been sacrificed to some policy which they do not understand, and have been compelled to believe that no fidelity, however great or long continued, can save the natives from being treated with cruel injustice and insult by the British Government when it suits its purpose. An opinion is daily gaining ground among them that close friendship with such a government is to be avoided; for, however fair its professions may be, and however generous its actions may at first appear to the unsuspecting, its fixed purpose is to deceive and betray whenever a suitable opportunity occurs. To what fearful results this feeling, if it become general among the native tribes, may at some future time give birth, I dare not allow myself to imagine."

6. However entirely erroneous may be the reasons which have led the natives to indulge such feelings towards us, it is certain that, until they are induced to abandon them, they will produce ill consequences for us. I will endeavour, therefore, in as far as I can, to remove such feelings, and think that the recent decisions made by Her Majesty's Government on several cases which I submitted to them will much tend to produce so desirable an end.

7. It clearly is our policy and that of South Africa generally, at present, to prevent a war from taking place; every effort, therefore, shall be made to preserve peace, although this will be now difficult, because Moshesh, to strengthen himself, is undoubtedly negotiating with some of the Kaffir tribes, and matters have gone to great lengths between himself and the Free State before I was made aware of what was taking place. It is, I think, much to be regretted, that the President of the Free State did not send me the letter he addressed to Moshesh on the 27th of June earlier than the 4th of August, as, had I received it a month earlier, it would have considerably modified my views and measures in relation to several subjects.

8. But I fear that lately some proceedings in the Colonial Parliament gave offence to the Government of the Free State, as, in writing to this Government, the President plainly says, in speaking of the Parliament, "I have no reason to congratulate the Free State on any manifestation of sympathy shown by them" (the Colonial Parliament) in its troubles, or any inclination to act towards us "with fairness or justice."

9. This feeling is much to be regretted at the present juncture, but I believe it will shortly subside. The President himself is a good and able man, and I feel quite satisfied he would not err in any manner intentionally. He necessarily has the interests of the Free State to consult, and regards these as his first object; but their interests are, at present, so intimately allied with ours, that no serious differences can, I think, take place between us, and I feel sure that the Colonial Parliament will do all that justice and fairness requires them to do in reference to the Free State.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

Encl. 1 in No. 1.

Enclousure 1 in No. 1.

A son Excellence G. GREY, Gouverneur de la colonie du Cap de Bonne Espérance.

MONSIEUR LE GOUVERNEUR,

Thaba Bosigo, Juin 23, 1856.

JE vous ai déjà écrit plusieurs fois pour vous mettre au courant de mes affaires avec les fermiers du Free State, et la tenour de ma correspondance toute entière vous aura prouvé, j'aime à le croire, que mon plus ardent désir est de vivre en paix avec mes voisins. Cependant, comme il pourrait arriver que tous mes efforts fussent inutiles, et que je fusse appelé à me défendre dans mon pays, j'ai à cœur d'informer votre Excellence que cela n'altérera en rien mes relations avec le gouvernement de la colonie, et que je ferai tous mes efforts pour empêcher à mon peuple de traverser le fleuve Orange; espérant que le gouvernement de la colonie en usera de même à mon égard, et gardera une entière neutralité.

Veuillez croire, Monsieur le Gouverneur, que je suis

Votre très-humble serviteur,  
(Signé) MOSHESH.

Pour copie conforme,  
(Signé) THEOP. TOSSE, V.D.M.

# STATE OF THE KAFFIR TRIBES.

3975  
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Enclosure 2 in No. 1.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

SIR,

Government House, Cape Town, July 23, 1856.

Encl. 2 in No. 1.

It was with great regret that I learnt from your letter of the 23d June that, notwithstanding your ardent desire to live in peace with your neighbour, it yet appeared possible that, after all the efforts you had made to maintain a state of peace, you might be called on to defend yourself in your own territories.

2. I sincerely hope that you are mistaken in these apprehensions, and that by just and judicious conduct you may still succeed in maintaining peaceful relations with all who surround you.

3. I must confess that the receipt of your letter caused me both sorrow and surprise, containing as it did a notification of the possible speedy commencement of hostilities beyond the Orange River, as I had not recently received any account of the existence of such a state of affairs there as was likely to bring on a war, the probable cause of which is quite unknown to me.

4. You assure me that even if a war should break out it will in no degree alter your relations with the Government of this country, and that you will do your utmost to prevent your people from passing the Orange River, hoping that this Government will preserve a similar course in reference to your territories, and will preserve an entire neutrality.

5. The general principle on which the British Government desires to act is that of a strict non-interference in any disputes beyond the boundary of the colony. It should, however, be remembered that in the progress of a war new circumstances from time to time arise, which may entirely alter the relations existing between neighbouring states; a most serious responsibility will thus rest upon any person who may unnecessarily plunge any part of South Africa into the miseries of war. I rely, therefore, with confidence upon your continuing to do your utmost to preserve peace.

6. In order that my views regarding the subjects on which I have addressed you may be known to all parties interested, I shall transmit a copy of this letter to the President of the Orange Free State.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) G. GREY.

The Great Chief Moshesh,  
&c. &c.

Enclosure 3 in No. 1.

Encl. 3 in No. 1.

EXTRACT of Letter from President BOSHOFF to Governor Sir G. GREY, dated Bloemfontein, Orange Vrystaal, August 4, 1856.

YOUR letter to me dated 23d ultimo duly reached me, and I beg to express my sincere thanks to your Excellency for the copy of your letter to Moshesh of the same date. It would appear from that letter that Moshesh has expressed his apprehension that, notwithstanding his ardent desire to live in peace with his neighbours, it yet appeared possible he might be called on to defend himself in his own territories.

That Moshesh in addressing your Excellency in this manner alluded to this state will be clear when you peruse the copies of a correspondence which I annex herewith, in order that your Excellency may see that the efforts of that chief to maintain a state of peace have not been effectual to prevent some of the tribes on the borders of the Caledon River district (admitted by him to be his own subjects and consequently under his protection) from annoying and harassing the Boers on that frontier in such a manner that the inhabitants of the greater part of these field-cornetries are still in "laagers," feeling it too dangerous to return to their farms, whilst some houses are already burnt down, and cattle and horse stealing are daily carried on, even extending to farms beyond the town of Smithfield.

Your Excellency will perceive that I have sent a deputation to Moshesh to request redress, and that he will take active measures to put a stop to these depredations and annoyances for the future; I have given him time till the end of this month, but if all that I shall receive should prove, as hitherto, a mere declaration of his desire to maintain a state of peace, and fair promises only, I shall find it indispensable to take such measures as may be thought requisite for the protection of our frontiers, even at the hazard of a general war with the Basutos; as otherwise the only alternative will be to abandon the whole of the Free State to them, there being no doubt that the giving up of a portion would only encourage them to more daring acts of violence and further encroachments.

The real and sincere desire of the Free State is to remain on good terms with the Basutos, who have themselves been unable to point out a single act of aggression on our side, and I am willing to think that Moshesh personally is equally well disposed towards us; but it would seem that, to extend his power and dominions, he takes under his protection some chiefs, with their numerous bands of followers, in order that by such combination they might be able to defy any hostile attack from their white neighbours, but whose thievish propensities and provocations, constantly displayed at the cost of those neighbours, he has either not the will or the power to check.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

I do hope and trust that this chief will now show that he is determined to do what is right, and to prove that he is worthy of our confidence and yours; knowing as I do that a war with him would be attended with great risk, inconvenience, and expense to us, and consequently feeling persuaded that it is our interest to avoid it if at all possible. I seriously fear, however, that there may be no alternative. To Moshesh no such difficulty presents itself, inasmuch as he may either punish the offending tribes himself or withdraw his protection from them and give them over to be dealt with by us.

Encl. 4 in No. 1.

Enclosure 4. in No. 1.

Government House, Cape Town,  
July 23, 1856.

SIR,

I THINK it right to enclose, for your Honor's information, the copy of a letter which I have this day transmitted to Moshesh, in reply to one which that chief addressed to me on the 23d of June last, as I feel it due to you that the knowledge of such important communications should not be withheld from you.

His Honor

The President of the Orange Free State.

I have, &amp;c.

Signed) G. GREY.

No. 2.

No. 2.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 76.)

Cape Town, August 16, 1856.

(Received Nov. 3, 1856.)

(Answered No. 120, Nov. 15, 1856, page 98.)

SIR,

\* Page 1.

In my Despatch No. 74,\* of the 16th instant, I acquainted you with the alarm felt by some of the native tribes at the proceedings which they alleged had been taken in reference to a chief of the name of Witzie by the Government of the Free State. I also informed you that I was made aware that negotiations had been for some time carried on between Moshesh and some of the Kaffir tribes;—I especially had in view that of Krel, Chief of the Galekas;—and that it was probable that hostilities between Moshesh and the Free State might commence early in September.

2. I have also reported in various Despatches that a very terrible disease has appeared amongst the horned cattle in this part of south Africa, which within the limits of the colony alone had carried off 100,000 head of cattle, and which was now sweeping off the cattle of the Kaffirs with frightful rapidity, and in so sudden and mysterious a manner that it was probable they might not only be seriously alarmed as to their future prospects, but that their superstitious feelings might be roused into activity. So long as this painful disease was confined to British Kaffraria we could in some degree alleviate the alarm of the Kaffirs, who depend almost entirely on their cattle for their subsistence, by affording them employment either on public or private works, but it was impossible to foretell what would happen when it stretched on into Kaffraria proper, which was entirely beyond our control.

3. At the same time anxiety in connexion with some of the circumstances to which I have above alluded has probably been excited in the minds of the Kaffir population on account of the expected arrival of the German Legion.

4. A Kaffir prophet who there is room to believe is partially deranged, and who having some years since been in service with Europeans had then caused trouble to his employers from visions which he alleged he had seen, availing himself of the excitement arising from the causes I have above explained, has lately given out that he has been favoured with visits from the spirits of the great chiefs and their followers who for several preceding generations have occupied Kaffraria, and that these are all ready to return to earth with a new and improved race of cattle, which can be affected by no sickness, and with all sorts of desirable property, surpassing all that has hitherto been seen by man; and that they will bring with them a numerous army of Russians, and that peace, prosperity, and Kaffir rule will then prevail upon the earth. But, as a necessary preliminary to their again taking human form, it is necessary

that all existing cattle and property of every kind should be destroyed and made away with, and that all this must be accomplished by the end of the month, when if it is done the spirits of their deceased ancestors have told him that a day of darkness will take place, during which they will assume the human form, and all these wonderful events will come to pass, and the Kaffirs who have killed or made away with their cattle and property will have herds of the new cattle given to them.

5. This prophet made his appearance very recently in Krel's country, who, in as far as we can ascertain, gave him countenance and support; and I cannot help at present believing that he was encouraged to do this in order to be prepared to support Moshesh at the end of this month or the beginning of next, if he is attacked by the people of the Free State. I am aware that Moshesh is preparing for what he believes will be a desperate struggle at that time, that constant communications are passing between himself and Krel, and it is singular that the time fixed on for the fulfilment of the prophecies is that which would exactly suit Moshesh's views.

6. The delusion has spread to a great extent; Krel's tribe are slaughtering or disposing of their cattle, goats, fowls, and other property at merely nominal prices; and if the delusion is not checked, they will by the time fixed be left in such a state of poverty and starvation that they will be ready for any desperate enterprise.

7. I am sorry to say that the delusion has also spread largely in British Kaffraria. The chiefs generally have exerted themselves to check it,—sometimes with slight success, but generally they have not been very successful in their efforts. As yet, however, it has not in British Kaffraria gone to such lengths as to render serious consequences certain, although undoubtedly there is great danger.

8. If it continues it is difficult to tell where the cloud will burst. Moshesh is very apprehensive that if he is attacked by the Government of the Free State they will be largely assisted by their friends and relations from the colony; it might therefore suit his views, in one sense, to try to give us enough to do to take care of ourselves, and thus to free himself as much as he can from all chance of having two enemies upon his hands at once. Any attack upon us would, however, by splitting the Kaffirs into two parties, weaken the force which he could bring against the Orange Free State, either for the purposes of attack or defence.

9. Some time since a confidential communication was made to me to the effect that the Basuto race, if they found their destruction was determined on, had come to the determination to change their whole habits of life,—to abandon their homes, cultivations and property, and, taking to the mountains, to become a predatory robber nation, living entirely upon what they could steal from the Orange Free State and colony, and making such constant incursions into the former that it should, in at least for a great part, be untenable by farmers.

10. If the present movement among Krel's tribe has been a predetermined arrangement, I am inclined to think that they have resolved to take part in some such proceedings as I have above detailed, although I think it more probable that they will act against the Free State than against ourselves. But if they involve the inhabitants of British Kaffraria to any great extent in their movement we must all suffer. In fact, the chiefs of British Kaffraria, who are generally acting with us, appear to be even more anxious regarding the present unprecedented state of things than we are. But it must be, under any circumstances, a great evil to have a dense barbarous population, absolutely without food, pressing on our borders.

11. Every precaution that our means will permit of has been taken to place the country in a state of military security, and to afford all possible protection to the frontier farmers if a war should break out. Those Kaffirs who are inclined to avail themselves of the prevailing panic by buying cattle, goats, &c. at the ridiculously low prices at which they are offered by Krel's people, are encouraged to do so. All possible means are being taken to encourage the chiefs in their hostility to the present movement, and in their fidelity to the Government. I have ordered that all the corn which these foolish people are disposing of at a nominal consideration should be bought up by Government agents and stored, and the moment the excitement has in any degree subsided ample employment shall be afforded to the Kaffirs on public works.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

12. These various proceedings have already somewhat allayed the prevailing excitement, and I hope, notwithstanding the present threatening aspect of affairs, that a war may not be inflicted on this country. I return on Monday next, the 18th instant, to the frontier, and hope that I may be able to succeed in checking the prevailing excitement, and in preserving that state of peace which it is so desirable to maintain until the arrival of the Anglo German Legion, the first detachment of which we may now soon hope to see in the colony.

Enclosure No. 1.  
No. 268.  
4th August 1856.  
Enclosure No. 2.  
No. 269.  
7th August 1856.  
Enclosure No. 3.  
Letter, 11th August  
1856.

13. I enclose copies of the last three reports which I have received from the Chief Commissioner of British Kaffraria, which will supply further details connected with the events which are now passing there.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) G. GREY.

Encl. 1 in No. 2.

Enclosure 1 in No. 2.

(No. 268.)

Sir,

Fort Murray, August 4, 1856.

In answer to your letter of the 26th ultimo, I have the honour to forward herewith reports from the magistrates with the various chiefs, together with certain late information, received from a very trustworthy and shrewd intelligent man, from whom I received the first intelligence of the late projected Fingo alliance.

It will be perceived that this information agrees with Mr. Brownlee's and Lieutenant Lucas's reports as to the indifference of the Galekas to the prophecies in circulation, and as to the excitement being confined to those districts in which, from the prevalence of the lung sickness, the people have lost their wealth and chief means of subsistence.

I am aware also that the lung sickness is still carrying off many cattle in the neighbourhood of the Keiskamma Mouth, and that this is one reason for the killing of cattle there.

Though probably also none of the chiefs or people this side of the Kei are without the belief that such things may possibly occur, yet, so far as can be learnt, no one of the chiefs has taken up or encouraged the views of the prophet, unless it may be the minor chief "Tabai," the second son of the late chief "Umkai," whose whole tribe does not exceed 200 men.

Even however as regards "Tabai," I have reason to believe that the information given by Mr. Brownlee is exaggerated or unfounded, as the case of "Undai" one of Umhala's principal councillors.

My reason for this belief is that a counsellor of the late chief "Umkai," from whom during the last two wars I have received confidential and trustworthy information, sent me a message to the effect that there was nothing serious in what was going on, and that I was not to send for him, but that he would come to me privately, if there was any impending danger.

Mr. Vigne reports also that Pato has gone into Umhala's location, and by the information received he has gone to that part of it which is inhabited by the Galekas; this he informed me of about a month ago, his alleged intention being to procure some cattle. I shall endeavour to obtain full information as to this visit.

Since writing my last report I have been informed that the Kaffirs who left Peilton have returned, though "they have not resumed their work."

Some of the natives employed at East London have also left, as they did during the rumours as to the Fingoe Alliance in December 1854.

Mr. Brownlee informs me that he thinks it likely also that some of his workmen who are Galekas will leave, but none have as yet gone; neither have any from the other road parties left, nor can I ascertain that there is any change in their demeanour; nor have I heard of any general return of Kaffir servants from the colony.

I have ascertained from Lieutenant Laumont in charge of the working party in Pato's location, on the Keiskamma, that the natives have enlarged or repaired their garden fences, with the view of commencing to cultivate as soon as the rains permit.

I annex a statement of the rumours generally current, and these appear to be so far of a pacific nature that what is foretold as about to happen is rather to happen to and for them than to be brought about by any movement of their own.

Some rumours are of course of a more warlike nature, but I have received these from European, and not directly from native sources.

After careful consideration of all the circumstances adverted to, I am of opinion with Mr. Brownlee, that we are rather to apprehend danger from accidental circumstances than from any combination or arranged plan of aggression, and I also agree with my native informants that nothing is likely to take place while so many remain quiet and uninfluenced.

Annexed.

vide Chief Commissioner's note in margin of Mr. Brownlee's letter.

# STATE OF THE KAFFIR TRIBES.

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Nor do I as yet see sufficient reason for altering the opinions and hopes expressed in my letter of the 17th ultimo. CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOHN MACLEAN,  
Secretary to his Excellency,  
The High Commissioner. Chief Commissioner.

P.S.—I also enclose a report from Mr. Superintendent Ayliffe on the feeling and temper of the Crown Reserve Fingoes, which appears to me satisfactory.

(Signed) JOHN MACLEAN,  
Chief Commissioner.

(No. 55.) Sub-Enclosure 1 in Enclosure 1 in No. 2.

Sub-Encl. 1 in  
Encl. 1 in No. 2.

Sir,

Dohne, July 30, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to report for your information that I have this evening returned from inspecting the road party at Queen's Town, and from my duties on the Thomas River, having left this on the 23d instant, and have just now received the following information from two different sources, and upon which I can rely.

That on Krel's late visit to Umhlakaza, Krel's son, who died about eighteen months since and for whose death the Doctor Bonela was cruelly murdered, was shown to Krel alive and well; a favourite horse some time dead was also produced, and a fresh ear of corn, and a pot of Kaffir beer.

Krel was then told by Umhlakaza that he was to kill all his cattle and goats, for so long as they existed nothing could be done; but when all the live stock had been killed, and all the corn was done, the dead would come to life, and the Russians would appear to sweep the English from off the face of the earth.

The places fixed upon by Umhlakaza for the appearance of the Russians, and from whence the Kaffirs would obtain cattle and other things, are the Ingaba, the Kwenxurn, the Keiskamma Mouth, and the Tyurula.

Krel told Umhlakaza that he was satisfied, and that since he was convinced no demonstration was to be made to any other person; but as he had many cattle, he asked Umhlakaza for a period of three months in which to kill them, which was conceded. The result I reported in my letter No. 54. of 23d instant.

Since then the Galekas have killed their cattle more than ever, and the flesh lies putrified about their kraals, and hundreds of fine cattle have been offered for sale here at from 10s. to 15s. per head.

One of my informants further states that he heard that you had called Pato, Siwani, and Kama to Fort Murray; that you had asked the news. On their replying that they had no news, you informed them of what Umhlakaza was doing and saying; you pointed out to them the fearful consequences that would ensue to them and their families should they be led astray by Umhlakaza's lies.

That Kama and Siwani, on returning home, called meetings of their councillors, informing them of what you had said, and telling their people that if they killed their cattle and obeyed Umhlakaza it would be injuring themselves and their chiefs, and would be an acknowledgment of Umhlakaza over their chiefs; and they begged most anxiously that their people would not permit themselves to be led astray by Umhlakaza's lies.

The people living near to Kama and Siwani have not killed their cattle, and Xopo, Bile, and Ixonyo, Siwani's chief councillors, are represented as being very urgent and earnest in support of their chief; but people of both tribes, and living at a distance from their chiefs, are represented as having killed their cattle, and, in some instances, the only two or three which they had been able to save from lung sickness. These men are said to have greatly extended their kraals, though they had no cattle to put into them.

I have not heard what Pato has done in reference to Umhlakaza, but it is said that he lately sent to Kama to ask his opinion regarding matters, and to ascertain whether he saw what was going on, and that Kama sent back the messengers without a reply.

Toase's people are said to be quiet, and not killing their cattle.

In Umhala's tribe Umhlakaza's prophecies are said to be popular, and his people are represented as having killed their cattle extensively; but I have not heard that this is with Umhala's concurrence or advice. Undai, Umhala's chief councillor, and the man by whose advice Umhala was chiefly deterred from going into the war of 1850, is said to be killing his cattle.

I have heard of two Gaikas in the Gaika district being among Galekas who have killed their cattle, but this is in direct opposition to Sandilli's order, as he has intimated that he will fine any one who kills his cattle in compliance with Umhlakaza's injunctions. Sandilli was here to-day to see me concerning the state of matters, but left before my arrival this evening. It was his intention to have returned on the 3d proximo, but as I think it better that I should see him at his own kraal, I have intimated my intention of visiting him on the 3d, and have requested him to call his principal councillors on that day. It is better that I make my views and advice as public as possible, to having here what would be a comparatively private meeting.

Transmitted with  
Chief Commissioner's  
Schedule,  
No. 297, of 24th  
July.

This I know to be  
incorrect. Undai is  
much opposed to the  
cattle killing, and made  
known this opposition  
to Umhala.

(Signed)  
J. MACLEAN,  
4th August 1856.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

Transmitted with  
Chief Commis-  
sioner's letter, No.  
263, of 17th July,  
Schedule 294.

I went yesterday with Captain Robertson to Anta's kraal. All appeared quiet and satisfactory, and we had a pleasant interview with the chief. We saw eight kraals besides the chief's, but at none of them was any animal killed.

Upon the whole, matters are not in any better state than when I wrote to you on the 29th of last month, and in Krell's country things appear to be in a greater state of confusion; but even there no hostile move is yet contemplated, and so long as the tribes on the west of the Kei do not heartily concur in what is transpiring across the Kei, I think, with cautious management, a rupture may be avoided. It is yet my opinion that we have more cause to fear an outbreak in consequence of outrages by private individuals than from any organized plan by the chiefs of the tribes.

The minds of many of the people are unsettled and excited; they are prepared to go into any mischief, and I fear such cases as those which have lately occurred may recur, unless the utmost caution and circumspection is used by persons travelling in Kaffraria.

I have to be in King William's Town to-morrow, and will return on the following day, when I expect to have additional information; if so, I will, of course, at once report it.

I should have stated before that Umhlakaza predicts that the cause of rupture between the Kaffirs and Government will be, that the Government will dig into the cavern in which the Russians have appeared, in order to get out the Russians, when war will ensue; in other words, that if the Government interfere with Umhlakaza, the Kaffirs are to take up arms. As I have already given my opinion on this point I need not repeat it here.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES BROWNLEE,  
Gaika Commissioner.

Gaika Commis-  
sioner's letter, 29th  
June 1856, trans-  
mitted with letter  
No. 263, of 17th  
July.

Colonel Maclean, Chief Commissioner,  
Fort Murray.

Sub-Encl. 2 in  
Encl. 1 in No. 2.

Sub-Enclosure 2 in Enclosure 1 in No. 2.

SIR,

King William's Town, August 1, 1856.

WITH reference to your communication of this day's date, on the subject of the reports now in circulation amongst the Kaffir tribes, in reply, I beg to state that, from anything I can learn on this subject, these reports do not appear to gain ground with the tribes of Macomo and Botman, nor do I think they are received with much confidence or favour with those chiefs at present. The former states that he is anxious to avoid having anything to say to the reports in question, and some of the people (with whom I have had conversation on this subject) say that the example they have had during the last war was sufficient to prove to them that no reliance has to be placed in prophets.

I am of opinion that the Kaffirs in my district are not acting on the advice of the prophets in disposing of their property; they are more anxious to acquire than to dispose of property at present—a proof of this is that numbers of the goats which are brought down by the Galekas have been purchased by Macomo's and Botman's people.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. LUCAS,  
Lieut., 45th Regiment, Magistrate with Macomo.

Colonel Maclean, Chief Commissioner,  
Fort Murray.

Sub-Encl. 3 in  
Encl. 1 in No. 2.

Sub-Enclosure 3 in Enclosure 1 in No. 2.

SIR,

Middle Drift, August 1, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to report that I consider the rumour of war as becoming still more threatening every day in this district, as the people continue to kill or sacrifice cattle, in defiance of orders they have received from the Chief Kama.

The excitement is spreading daily, and much alarm is felt by the Europeans who reside near this place, both at Alice and the Keiskamma River.

Kama will hold a meeting of his tribe on Monday next, and he has just told me he will drive out of his tribe those who disobey his orders. I beg to state that he told me this not privately but publicly, before his son "Samuel" and some of the councillors.

I have the honour to state that I consider "Samuel" is to be trusted most fully, but I think a large part of this tribe are disaffected; and I should think it very probable that those two parties will come to an open rupture in a very short time.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. REEVE,  
Capt., 73d Regiment, Special Magistrate.

Colonel Maclean, Chief Commissioner,  
Fort Murray.



# STATE OF THE KAFFIR TRIBES.

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Sub-Enclosure 4 in Enclosure 1 in No. 2.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

SIR,

Middle Drift, August 2, 1856.

IN reference to a communication received from you yesterday evening, I have the honour to state that I consider the rapidity with which the rumours and superstitions have spread in this district, and the prevalence of the determination to sacrifice cattle in defiance of orders received from the Chief Kama, form altogether good reasons for further apprehension.

The reports in this tribe have been received with favour by several people, but quite against the orders of Kama and his son Samuel.

I have just spoken to Kama himself as to what he thinks of the present aspect of affairs in general, and he says he considers that when the cattle are killed that a war will break out.

He also informs me the people look for great things to happen at about the middle of this month, when the moon is full (16th instant). It is however as well to state, in reference to this rumour, that a similar anticipation of some strange event existed on the 1st of January last.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) F. REEVE,  
Capt., Special Magistrate.

The Chief Commissioner,  
Kaffraria.

Sub-Encl. 4 in  
Encl. 1 in No. 2.

Sub-enclosure 5 in Enclosure 1 in No. 2.

Sub-Encl. 5 in  
Encl. 1 in No. 2.

SIR,

Waterloo Huts, August 2, 1856.

IN answer to your letter of to-day's date, I have the honour to report that nothing further has come to my knowledge to excite apprehension as to the present state of mind of the Kaffir tribes. On the contrary Umhala professes not to believe the reports, and Mackinnon (his eldest son) was heard to express himself very decidedly about it, saying that "he would believe the reports when he saw his grandfather H'lambie and not till " then, and that he would cut the throat of any fool in his kraal that commenced killing " or selling his cattle."

Umhala sent for Mr. Fynn this morning, and asked him, if you were agreeable, if he would accompany a chief " Umbola " to Umhlakaza's place to ascertain the truth of the reports.

Mr. Fynn replied he would, but he knew he would hear only lies and see nothing.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOHN C. GAWLER,  
Special Magistrate with Umhala.

The Chief Commissioner,  
&c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure 6 in Enclosure 1 in No. 2.

Sub-Encl. 6 in  
Encl. 1 in No. 2.

SIR,

Pato's Great Place, August 2, 1856.

IN reply to yours of this date, I have to state that I have reason to believe that many people are killing cattle, in fact more than one person has killed all; but the reason for their so acting I cannot say. Pato, in answer to your " word," says they are killing for their children. Delima hesitates, and says he does not know why; but the truth is so difficult to arrive at, that I think I shall best be able to judge by going about myself amongst the people and using my own eyes. It is my intention to start next week.

Pato himself has not yet returned from his trip up the country; all I hear is that he has obtained some cattle and given them away again. He will return to-morrow, when I shall see him and report to you our conversation, as it is known we are aware of the object of his journey.

With regard to the opinion of Pato's tribe about the reports of the Galekas, I will assert nothing, but hope to gather something on my trip through the location next week. Beyond the killing of the cattle, I see nothing like excitement.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) HERBERT VIGNE,  
Magistrate with Pato.

The Chief Commissioner,  
British Kaffraria.

Sub-Enclosure 7 in Enclosure 1 in No. 9.

Sub-Encl. 7. in  
Encl. 1 in No. 2.

Fort Murray, August 2, 1856.

THE following information this day communicated to the Chief Commissioner by a trustworthy man:—

" I have just returned from the Kweleza River in Umhala's location, and having heard " while there that a number of the new people were not far off, I went to the spot, a little " way down the river; I however, as I had expected, found or saw nothing.

CAVE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

" That part of the Kweleza is inhabited by Galekas, under a petty chief named 'Sigiti.'  
" A number of the new people are likewise said to be on the Keiskamma, near the Dui  
" Drift. They are said to have been first discovered by the chief 'Tabai,' right hand  
" son of the late chief 'Umkai'; that these people possess a number of sheep, cattle, dogs,  
" horses, &c. &c.; that 'Tabai' himself is looked upon in the light of a prophet. The  
" cattle killing, in obedience to the prophecies, is principally carried into effect by the  
" 'Galekas' and 'Gumikwebes.' A portion of Umhala's and Siwani's people are also  
" killing their cattle; and although the latter has given strict orders to all his people not  
" to destroy their property, they nevertheless do so. None of the Gaika chiefs or people  
" have yet commenced to dispose of their property.  
" Pato has gone to visit the spot on the Kweleza, where the new people are said to be.  
" About four days ago Krefi had a meeting of all his principal men to consult as to the  
" propriety of killing any more cattle, as they were finishing all they possessed, and  
" soon their children would die from hunger. That now some time had elapsed since  
" 'Umhlakaza' first spoke of these things, and none of them had yet come to pass. That  
" 'Umhlakaza' should be asked for an explanation of this, and that he must now prove to  
" Krefi the truth of his sayings, by producing the new people and cattle.  
" Sandilli and all his people are strongly opposed to the rumours in circulation, and even  
" purchase cattle from the Galekas at very low prices; and I am of opinion that, unless  
" the Gaikas change, there is no fear of war."

(Signed) JOHN MACLEAN,  
Chief Commissioner.

(Signed) GEORGE M. SHEPSTONE,  
Interpreter to Chief Commissioner.

Sub-Encl. 8 in  
Encl. 1 in No. 2.

Sub-Enclosure 8 in Enclosure 1 in No. 2.

#### MEMORANDUM.

Fort Murray, August 4, 1856.

#### General Rumours in circulation in Kaffirland:—

A DAY of darkness to take place at about the end of this moon (August); others give out it is to be in the middle of the moon (full moon); on or shortly after which day all those who have carried into effect the orders of Umhlakaza are to appear, or rather assemble, at some particular spot before some great man (whether chief, counsellor, or prophet, not known). On this occasion the people must appear in white blankets, to have on new brass wire rings, &c. On this day the people are to receive the new cattle, and the new people will be produced. No gardens to be cultivated, as the gardens will be stocked with corn without the trouble of labour.

About four days ago a mist rose rather suddenly in the afternoon, and the Kaffirs who were on the Mount Coke Station that day all hurried off to their homes, supposing it to be the day of darkness which had been foretold would take place.

Two suns to rise on the Tabandoda at the time when the great event is to happen, and when the English are to walk into the sea, which is to open a road for them until they arrive at "Ilongo," when the devil is to dispose of them all.

(Signed) JOHN MACLEAN,  
Chief Commissioner.

(Signed) GEORGE M. SHEPSTONE,  
Interpreter to Chief Commissioner.

Encl. 2 in No. 2.

(No. 269.)

Enclosure 2 in No. 2.

SIR,

Fort Murray, August 7, 1856.

SINCE my last report (No. 268, of the 4th instant) two occurrences require special notice. The first is the breaking up of some of the road parties, after having received the amount due to them to the 31st ultimo.

One party under Mr. Kayser, working on the new line of road between King William's Town and Graham's Town in Siwani's location, about seven miles from the Tamacha Post, and numbering about 112 men, composed of equal numbers of Siwani's men and of Gaikas and Galekas, is now reduced to three.

Mr. Kayser, having no apprehension and being willing to continue at the work, is at my request endeavouring to enlist fresh workmen at a shilling per day, instead of sixpence and their rations. I have done this as a temporary measure, to induce Siwani's Kaffirs to undertake the labour, and likewise as a test of their state of feeling.

A second party under Mr. Wroots on the new line of road from King William's Town to East London, about four miles from this station, numbering about sixty, have in like manner left; seven only remaining.

As Mr. Wroots also states that he has no apprehension of danger, and as he is intimately acquainted with the natives I have instructed him to endeavour to procure workmen on the same terms as Mr. Kayser.

# STATE OF THE KAFFIR TRIBES.

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CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

Mr. Browlee also informs me that all the Gulekas employed by him have left. This was anticipated by Mr. Brownlee some days previously.

The working party employed on the new line of road opposite East London, and also Mr. Lamont's party near the Keiskamma Mouth, have as yet continued their labour.

The second occurrence is that announced by Mr. Browlee in his letter of the 5th instant, that within the last few days a great change has taken place among the Gaikas, and that although they have not killed cattle extensively many of them are wavering, and that a few of Sandilli's counsellors make no secret in avowing their faith in Umhlakaza.

I had hoped that the Gaikas would have been deterred from joining in this, if only from the facts that their cattle had been hitherto unaffected by the lung sickness, and that if any war occurred that they would be unable to keep up that separation which has hitherto protected them.

I also thought that the Gaika chiefs would not be willing to encourage any change in the present aspect of affairs, since hopes appear to have been excited in the minds of Sandilli's brothers and others that under the present system they were becoming more independent of Sandilli.

With regard to the chiefs, it is to be hoped that they will unwillingly involve themselves; and my native information tends to show the excitement is not yet considered serious by many among the Hlambics, and that the Gulekas are beginning to be dissatisfied at the deferment of their expectations.

The close approach of the time at which these changes are expected takes away somewhat of the significance of the breaking up of the working parties and the extension of the excitement to the Gaika tribes, since it is natural that on the expected eve of changes so great many waverers and unbelievers would give in to the prevailing delusion; neither do I anticipate any immediate outbreak at the time appointed for these changes.

Nevertheless it appears to me that matters have now reached a determining point.

The mere continuance of the excitement must increase it, and do away with any reasonable hope of a favourable termination.

Should, therefore, the prophet be able to postpone in a manner satisfactory to the Gulekas the time for the fulfilment of his predictions, I think these predictions will assume a more openly aggressive form, and that war will inevitably follow from the excitement and starvation combined.

On the contrary, should my native information as to the commencing dissatisfaction of the Gulekas be confirmed, I do not think that the existing excitement this side of the Kei is of such nature and extent as to result in any hostile acts.

As a precautionary measure, and previous to the receipt of Mr. Brownlee's letter of the 5th instant, I had, however, thought it proper to suggest to the Commandant of Kaffraria that it would be prudent to withdraw all small detached parties into their respective posts, those employed with the native working parties excepted, as I deemed it impolitic to break up these, and as I had made arrangements with the superintendents of such parties to make me instantly acquainted with any change.

That which chiefly weighed with me in suggesting the withdrawal of all other small military parties was the temptation held out to any impatient and restless spirits to possess themselves of arms or bring about a collision.

I annex a minute of an interview with "Tali" and "Tabai," also a letter from the Gaika Commissioner, corroborative of a marginal note made by me in that officer's report of the 30th ultimo, relative to "Undai," one of Umhala's counsellors.

Sub-Encl. 1.

Sub-Encl. 2.

I also annex information which I have this day received from trustworthy natives.

Sub-Encl. 3 and 4.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN MACLEAN,  
Chief Commissioner.

P.S.—I annex a report just received from the Superintendent of the Crown Reserve, with the satisfactory intelligence that the prophet's sayings have in no way affected the Fingoes.

Sub-Encl. 5.

(Signed) JOHN MACLEAN,  
Chief Commissioner.

W. F. Liddle, Esq.,  
Secretary to his Excellency  
the High Commissioner.

Sub-Enclosure 1 in Enclosure 2 in No. 2.

Sub-Encl. 1 in  
Encl. 2 in No. 2.

MINUTE of INTERVIEW between the Chief Commissioner and "Tali" and "Tabai," sons of the late Chief "Umhala."

Fort Murray, August 6, 1856.

My children, I am glad to see you. I have sent for you to fulfil the promise I made to your father the day previous to his death, that I would protect and counsel you. You are aware of the excited feeling among the Kaffirs, occasioned by the talk which is throughout the land about the prophet Umhlakaza.

Chief Commissioner.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE  
Tabai.]

Open your hearts to me, tell me the news, and the feeling and conduct of your people.

I thank you for calling me and my brother "Tali," and telling us the news. I had intended to have come here before, as I had heard it had been reported that I had visited the prophet Umhlakaza, and that this had also come to your ears.

You well know that my father was a great friend of the Government, and on this account you must first think before you place any credit in reports you may hear about me, my brother "Tali," and our tribe, as the other Kafir chiefs and people, owing to our being young and inexperienced, will do all they can to injure us with the Government. I am glad that you sent for us, and that you speak to us as a father, for now I am enabled to give you my positive denial that I ever visited the prophet. It is true I have been absent from home, for I went to the Gaika district to see about my wife, and as I had gone so far I passed on to the Tambookie Chief, "Tyopo," to ask him for a horse; this can be proved by people, both black and white, whom I met when on my way up to the Gaika district; and I hope that you will hereafter always send for me when you hear any flying reports about me. I hear they say that the prophet gives out that my father has come to life, and various other absurd rumours; these I do not listen to, as they are all lies, and our tribe is merely waiting for rain to cultivate their gardens.

(Signed) JOHN MACLEAN,  
Chief Commissioner.

Witness,  
(Signed) GEORGE M. SHEPSTONE,  
Interpreter to Chief Commissioner.

Sub-Encl. 2 in  
Encl. 2 in No. 2.

(No. 65.)

Sub-Enclosure 2 in Enclosure 2 in No. 2.

SIR,

Dohne, August 5, 1856.

In a late report I stated that "Undai," Umhala's chief counsellor, had been killing his cattle. My information was incorrect, and I am now glad to state, on the best authority, that not only has Undai not killed his cattle, but that he opposes the movement with all his power.

Umhala is said not to have killed, neither have his nephews and others of the chief counsellors; but the statement which I made some time since, that the people are extensively killing their cattle, is fully confirmed.

(Signed) CHARLES BROWNLEE,  
Gaika Commissioner.

Colonel Maclean,  
Chief Commissioner.

Sub-Encl. 3 in  
Encl. 2 in No. 2.

Sub-Enclosure 3 in Enclosure 2 in No. 2.

Fort Murray, August 6, 1856.

INFORMATION communicated to the Chief Commissioner.

A few days ago, I told you that Krelh had held a meeting of his principal men to decide upon sending a message to "Umhlakaza," relative to his prophecies not coming to pass. This message I have just heard has been sent, and Umhlakaza requested Krelh's messenger to wait a day or two at Umhlakaza's kraal, as the new people had gone to the "Ingaba" (stronghold).

A day of darkness is to take place about the full of this moon, when great events are said will happen; these were to have taken effect at the full of last moon, and I have just seen a Kafir who says he has killed all his cattle, and that as yet he believes in the prophecies; but that if the great things do not take place at the time foretold, he and many of the other Kafirs will disbelieve all that has been said.

Witness,  
(Signed) GEORGE M. SHEPSTONE,  
Interpreter to Chief Commissioner.

Sub-Encl. 4 in  
Encl. 2 in No. 2.

Sub-Enclosure 4 in Enclosure 2 in No. 2.

Fort Murray, August 7, 1856.

INFORMATION this day communicated to the Chief Commissioner.

Since I was last at this place about a fortnight ago I have not seen or heard anything new; the cattle killing still continues, and I am afraid will do until they destroy them all, then will consequently follow extensive thieving and outrages on Europeans and their property, which will in all probability bring on a collision; but at present the getting rid of property is more with the expectation of obtaining in a short time a new supply of everything, than with a view of plunging themselves suddenly into a war.

Witness,  
(Signed) GEORGE M. SHEPSTONE,  
Interpreter to Chief Commissioner.

# STATE OF THE KAFFIR TRIBES.

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Sub-Enclosure 5 in Enclosure 2 in No. 2.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

Sub-Encl. 5 in  
Encl. 2 in No. 2.

SIR,

King William's Town, August 6, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to report that I yesterday proceeded to the Izeli for the purpose of visiting the Fingo locations in that neighbourhood, to endeavour to find out how far they are affected by the prophecies of Umhlakaza; and I have much pleasure to inform you, that, so far from participating in the infatuation, they are taking advantage of it by buying cattle and goats from the Kaffirs at absurdly low prices.

In addition to this, they are taking steps to commence gardening so soon as the rains fall.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN AYLIFF,  
Superintendent Crown Reserve.

The Chief Commissioner,  
British Kaffraria.

(No. 58.)

Sub-Enclosure 6 in Enclosure 2 in No. 2.

Sub-Encl. 6 in  
Encl. 2 in No. 2.

SIR,

Dohne, August 2, 1856.

THOUGH I have written you several reports on the present unsettled state of the country, I have never made any analysis of it, neither have I attempted any explanation; and indeed the whole thing is so much involved in mystery, that though my attention has been long and strongly directed to the subject, I have not been able to discover any object in the movement.

The excitement which I reported in May was wholly confined to the tribes that had the least reason for war, and among them was wholly among the people, against the expressed wishes of their chiefs.

The present movement seems to have originated with a private person across the Kei, hut was immediately taken up by Krelli, who encouraged it both by precept and example, and since then, across the Kei, the infatuation has spread to an astonishing degree, as reported to you in my letters Nos. 43, 44, 49, and 55.

It seems absurd that a shrewd and reasoning people like the Kaffirs should be led astray by such reports as have for the last few months been in circulation, and that they should be giving up a certainty for an uncertainty; but if we reflect on some of the wonderful delusions in our own land in the last and present century, and even in our own day, some measure of astonishment may be removed, that a superstitious people, who have always regarded their chief doctors as inspired, should be led astray when the delusion is pleasing and its realization desirable.

This, however, cannot apply to the fabricators of the delusions, they must have an object in view if it is their right mind, and the only one which I can arrive at is, that if the Kaffirs will not make war from choice, they must do it from necessity, famine being the cause; or it may be that Krelli, having seen the effects of "Umlangeni's" prophecies, may hope by "Umhlakaza's" predictions to produce the same on a larger combination of tribes against the Government. Should this be his object, I think he will be frustrated; for killing cattle and destroying the means of the people's subsistence may not prove as popular among other tribes as it has among the Galekas, and before the other tribes are reduced to want the Galekas may be starving.

But in the ordinary course of events, though famine may induce people to commit riots and outrages, a starving people are not in a position to undertake an aggressive warfare; for the Kaffirs say that famine always did more to conquer them than the forces brought against them, and wars have never been begun in seasons of scarcity, but the Kaffirs have always been most unruly and unmanageable in the years of their greatest plenty. If, therefore, we can with honour and dignity keep matters straight until a famine does ensue, which must be the case if the present course is persisted in for three or four months longer, I think we will find hundreds of these wretched people much more ready to take service in the Colony than to fight against us.

At the present time, I think nothing would be more acceptable to Krelli than any interference on our part by which he may enlist the sympathy of other tribes:—his misrepresentation of his interview with you illustrates this;—but I do not think he would undertake an aggressive movement, particularly in his present relation with the Tumbookies, unless they should be imposed on by "Umhlakaza;" at present also Krelli cannot count on the Gaikas, they have not at all gone into the present movement, and I have been highly pleased with all that Sandilli has done in it; he does not perhaps generally receive credit for purity of motives, but though I concede this to him, I may add that Macomo and Botman are averse to war and would not take part in it, and so long as this is their determination, whatever Sandilli's wishes may be, I do not think he would involve himself. I have often conversed with Sandilli on this subject; his professions to me I take at what they are worth; my opinions regarding his policy and intentions are formed from information derived from other sources.

Though I have thrown no light on the origin or object of the present state of affairs, it is plain that we are in a critical position, and a false step may bring on a crisis. As illustrative how a small matter may lead to serious results, I may mention an incident which occurred to-day.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

About 120 of my workmen came in to-day for their pay; about one half of these men have been for some time on the Government works, and are determined to continue working; the other half, being principally new hands, and Galeskas, had determined to leave immediately on receiving their pay. For some days past considerable ill-feeling had arisen between the parties, and to-day, on a slight altercation between two of the men, the two parties of the workmen seized sticks, poles, and whatever else they could find; blows were exchanged, and had I not rushed in between them, blood would have been shed. Collisions of this nature are what I apprehend most danger from at present.

It might yet have a good effect to send a mild admonitory message to Krcb, pointing out to him the fearful ruin in which he is involving his people; and though this may be unheeded, he and his people may hereafter see and acknowledge that we had given them good and friendly advice, and, had they listened to it, they would have been saved from the misery into which they are now hurrying themselves.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES BROWNLEE,  
Gaika Commissioner.

Colonel Maclean, Chief Commissioner,  
Kaffraria.

Sub-Encl. 7 in  
Encl. 2 in No. 2.

(No. 59.)

Sub-Enclosure 7 in Enclosure 2 in No. 2.

SIR,

Dolme, August 2, 1856.

As many of the Kaffirs are disposing of all their corn and cattle, and as great want and misery must inevitably result, I would beg to suggest that arrangements be made for the purchase of as much grain as can now be obtained and stored.

This may hereafter be distributed to the destitute for seed and food, and such arrangements could be made in the distribution that the greater part of the money expended in the purchase may be got back in labour or otherwise from those who apply for relief.

Should this suggestion meet with his Excellency's approval, and the means placed at my disposal, I would at once make arrangements for the purchase of grain at two or three favourable points, and fill the Government store at this place.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES BROWNLEE,  
Gaika Commissioner.

Colonel Maclean, Chief Commissioner.

Encl. 3 in No. 2.

Enclosure 3 in No. 2.

MY DEAR SIR GEORGE,

Fort Murray, August 11, 1856.

HAVING acquainted your Excellency with the state of affairs up to the 7th instant, I can scarcely venture to report any very decided change either for the better or worse. The information which I received last night, from a man who always obtains correct information, still leads me to hope that the chiefs will not readily involve themselves; and the native information contained in Enclosure No. 7 (under Docket) states that the Hlaubies are beginning to get dissatisfied at the deferment of their expectations.

Pato's people are cutting poles for the repair and extension of their gardens, also collecting thatch for new houses; and, strange to say, are casting away old but useful spades and hoes, and replacing them with new ones. This, it is stated, they are doing in the hope of obtaining new cattle, free from lung sickness.

I am just going to wait upon the Bishop, in the hope of being useful to him. I believe he proceeds to Umhals on the 13th instant.

It is quite distressing to hear the various reports in circulation fabricated in Alice and King William's Town, and I have traced many of these reports to Europeans, who ought to have known better.

I shall do my utmost to keep up the working parties, if even I make an advance of pay as a temporary measure, as I think it impolitic to give way altogether because some of the men have not resumed work.

Trusting that your Excellency may soon arrive,

I remain, &c.

(Signed) JOHN MACLEAN.

I enclose a note from Mr. Vigne.

Sub-Encl. 1 in  
Encl. 3 in No. 2.

Sub-Enclosure 1 in Enclosure 3 in No. 2.

MY DEAR SIR,

Pato's Great Place, August 9, 1856.

DURING an interview I had with Pato yesterday, he told me that I might tell you, or any one, that as soon as the rain falls he intends to plant his gardens.

I heard also that the reason why the road parties are giving up work, is that the prophet tells them that if they make a noise in the ground with picks, &c., they will disturb the cattle and delay their appearance.

The plough is here, and Pato and I are to plough as much as we can. He authorized me also to stop the people killing cattle, &c., and said, that if Dilima were with me in any trip, he would tell him also to speak and use his name.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

Yours truly,  
(Signed) H. VIGNE.

Sub-Enclosure 2 in Enclosure 3 in No. 2.

Sub-Encl. 2 in  
Encl. 3 in No. 2.

Fort Murray, August 10, 1856.

INFORMATION this day communicated to the Chief Commissioner.

Last night I was at a kraal about two miles from this, where a number of Toise's, Pato's, and Umhala's people were present drinking beer. Some of Pato's people made no secret of the fact of their having killed cattle, in obedience to the prophecies, and said they would kill no more, as they were beginning to see clearly that it was all a deception, and that if at the full of the present moon nothing extraordinary happened as had been predicted, then not only they, but all the Kaffirs, would see the untruthfulness of all that has been said.

I also heard that since Krela had sent to Umhlakaza for an explanation, Umhlakaza has deserted his kraal for fear of Krela putting him to death, and that he denies ever having spoken the things put to him, but asserts that all the prevailing rumours have originated from the people themselves.

A man named "Yekwe," who went to Umhlakaza, has returned, and says that he could see nothing strange, as had been reported, and that, having thus satisfied himself that all was false, he had brought with him a quantity of seed corn which he had purchased on his way back from the Galekas, and that, whatever others might do or say, he would stay quietly at his kraal and cultivate his gardens, and he advised his friends to do likewise.

Witness,  
(Signed) GEORGE M. SHEPSTONE,  
Interpreter to Chief Commissioner.

No. 3.

No. 3.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 83.)

Cape Town, August 18, 1856.

(Received Nov. 3, 1856.)

SIR,

(Answered No. 120, November 15, 1856, page 99.)

I THINK it right, as I am on the point of starting for the frontier, to state that the overland mail has this instant come in, bringing news from the frontier to the 14th instant; the excitement prevailing there appears from the accounts now received to be declining, and no event of any importance has taken place since I last wrote, I therefore hope and think on good grounds that no disturbances will take place.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

No. 4.

No. 4.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 84.)

Port Elizabeth, August 21, 1856.

(Received Nov. 3, 1856.)

SIR,

(Answered No. 120, November 15, 1856, p. 98.)

I HAVE the honour to report that I arrived at this place last night, and shall proceed on to Graham's Town to-morrow. I found here letters from the Lieut.-General of the 19th instant, and from the Chief Commissioner of British Kaffraria of the 18th instant; the former reports that matters in Kaffraria and on the frontier generally were more tranquil.

2. The latter reports also favourably of the state of affairs, and is satisfied that the arrangements which I have made for enabling the Kaffirs in British

18th August 1856.  
Enclosure 1.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

18th August 1856.  
Enclosure 2.

Kaffraria to purchase the stock, &c. which the Kaffirs in Kaffraria Proper are so foolishly disposing of will produce the best effect.

3. I further enclose for your information the copy of another letter from the Chief Commissioner of British Kaffraria of the same date, from which you will find that embassies have been passing between Modesh and Krelli and other great chiefs, and that it is believed that the prophet is merely a secondary instrument in the hands of the great chiefs, working on the superstition and ignorance of the common people.

4. Still I hope (and I think with reason) that nothing can result from the present movement. The great mass of men employed on the public works remain faithful to us, their numbers even increasing, and the fact of my having an intelligent officer resident with nearly every great chief gives the Government an amount of influence in the country and a correctness of information which it never previously possessed.

5. I shall lose no time in getting well to the front, when I will see each principal chief, and satisfy myself by personal inspection of the present state and disposition of each of the tribes.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) G. GREY.

Encl. 1 in No. 4.

Enclosure 1 in No. 4.

MY DEAR SIR GEORGE,

Fort Murray, August 18, 1856.

UPON the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 7th instant I lost no time in communicating with Mr. Brownlee, also with the special magistrate, in terms of your Excellency's note, expressive of your sorrow for the foolish conduct of the people in bringing misery and poverty upon themselves, and offering an advance of pensions and salaries to chiefs and councillors to be invested in stock, &c.

Kama and Siwani fully enter into your Excellency's views, and thankfully accept the offer. Siwani is, however, anxious to procure fatherland cows from the colony, and I have written to Mr. Southey to oblige me by purchasing six good cows. Captain Reeve has entered into the plan, and will assist me in carrying it out. I have not as yet received a reply from the other magistrates, but I am satisfied that the best results will follow upon the introduction of the measure.

I have also, in order to give full effect to your Excellency's system of Government, taken upon myself to extend the same to Siwani, and I have acquainted him that I will pay him his salary, and act as his magistrate, until your Excellency can make some other arrangement. I have also requested Mr. John Ayliff to act as special magistrate with the Chief Toise; and as regards Jan Tzatzoe, I submit that I may also give him the same benefit; he can be paid by me; and Mr. Superintendent Fielding of the Kaffir police force stationed here can carry out all detail, as he is intimately acquainted with the tribe, and speaks the Kaffir language with tolerable fluency.

Unkye's sons, Sale and Tahai, can be attached to Mr. Vigne; thus the system will be in full operation with all the chiefs in the province, Xoxo and Fynn (of the Gaika tribe) excepted.

The Bishop returns to Graham's Town to-morrow. I have had several very agreeable interviews with him. He visited Umhala and Sandilli, and was pleased with his interviews with Umhala; but not so much with his meeting with Sandilli; he considered him sullen, and did not like his manner; and the Bishop also noticed cattle killed near Sandilli's kraal, and corn thrown away. I have not heard, however, of any extensive cattle killing in the Gaika district, except in Macomo's and Botman's tribes. We have upwards of 50 men employed on the new road from Lower Victoria to East London through Pato's location; and the road parties on the new line of road to East London through Umhala's country are still working and increasing in numbers.

Yours very truly,  
(Signed) JOHN MACLEAK.

Encl. 2 in No. 4.

Enclosure 2 in No. 4.

(No. 270.)

SIR,

Fort Murray, August 18, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the information of his Excellency the High Commissioner, the enclosed reports from Mr. Brownlee, the Gaika Commissioner, dated 15th and 16th instant; and from Mr. Ayliff, Superintendent of the Crown Reserve, dated 15th instant.

The information contained in Mr. Brownlee's letter corroborates the native reports which I have from time to time obtained, both as regards Krelli and the other chiefs; and



# STATE OF THE KAFFIR TRIBES.

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CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

I am happy to state that cattle killing and the waste of corn has in a great degree ceased in the Hlambo district.

I stated in a recent report that the present excitement is due to Umhlakaza and Kreli, and it appears to me that the desire and line of policy intended to be taken was clearly manifested in the attempted alliance between the Kaffir and Fingo tribes in 1854, when they desired to make friends and allies of ancient enemies; and the same policy, that of combination with other tribes, will doubtless continue until all hope of success on their part is extinguished.

In proof of this, I have remarked that when the tribes are restless, and appearances prove that evil designs are contemplated against the established order of things, that special embassies and presents have been exchanged between Mosheah, Kreli, and other great chiefs; that this has been going on I believe there can be no doubt.

The present apparently passive demeanour of the chiefs cannot be taken as a token of their want of co-operation in the present excitement, as the words of a Kaffir are not more to be relied upon than the diplomatic phrases of more civilized nations; and I have reason to believe that the prophet is merely a secondary instrument in the hands of the great chiefs working on the superstition and ignorance of the common people.

I still hope that circumstances may favour the success of the present system of Government in this province; and that although only in its infancy, it may already have effected a subdivision of interests, and created a wholesome state of jealousy and disunion among the chiefs, which may prevent any very extended or serious outbreak.

Should the excitement unfortunately result in rebellion, I am of opinion that the duration of the warfare will also mainly depend upon an effective blow being struck at the commencement, and thus check the wavering; experience having proved that a mere defensive attitude will only add to the number and daring of the enemy.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOHN MACLEAN,

The Secretary to his Excellency  
the High Commissioner.

Chief Commissioner.

Sub-Enclosure 1 in Enclosure 2 in No. 4.

Sub-Encl. 1 in  
Encl. 2 in No. 4.

(No. 69.)

SIR,

Dohne, August 15, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to report for your information, that last night at half-past ten o'clock I returned from a visit to the chief Anta, in company with Captain Robertson. The meeting was satisfactory; and, as the detail will be reported by Captain Robertson, I need say no more.

Capt. Robertson's Report not yet received.  
J. M.  
15th Aug. 1856.

The people about Anta have not been misled by Umhlakaza's delusions; and the chief Oba has been particularly active in opposing the delusion, and his tribe appears to be the most exempt from it of any among the Amasosa.

In returning from Anta's kraal, I passed through the lower Thomas River, where the inhabitants are of a mixed population,—Gaikas, Galekas, and Hlamboes. There I found that a good many cattle had been killed, and the people were still killing. I halted at the Thomas River and collected a number of the people, to whom I spoke, apparently with good effect.

The intelligence from Kreli's country is of a somewhat more satisfactory nature than the last. The frenzy and excitement which prevailed during the whole of last month are somewhat lulled and subsiding; the people appear to think they have performed their part, and are now looking to the prophet for some evident and convincing manifestation of power. Many of the firmest believers are growing doubtful; and those who, although unbelieving, had been carried away with the stream, are beginning to speak out.

What passed at my late meeting with Sandilli has been faithfully and extensively circulated. This, doubtless, will also have its influence.

Last moon the people expected to have seen something, but this is the moon in which they have been most induced to expect to see wonders; Umhlakaza having predicted that in this moon an eclipse of the sun will take place, with other wonders. Should the delusion not assume a new phase before the next moon, I think, as far as the Galekas and Gaikas are concerned, our danger will be past.

Since my last meeting with Sandilli, the growing disposition to follow the example of the Galekas appears to have been checked, and I trust it will not again be revived.

I am just starting to see Xoxo and Fyne. I will also see Sandilli; and when I return to-morrow night, I trust to be able to give you a favourable report of the state of affairs; and I hope that the present lull will not prove the prelude to a worse state of affairs.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) CHARLES BROWNLEE,  
Gaika Commissioner.

Colonel Maclean,  
Chief Commissioner.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE

(No. 71.)

Sub-Enclosure 2 in Enclosure 2 in No. 4.

SIR,

Dobne, August 16, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to report for your information, that I have this evening returned from a two days tour, in which I visited the chief Sandilli, Xoxo, and Fynn.

I found matters settled and quiet, and had satisfactory meetings with the chiefs.

Exclusive of what passed with Sandilli, I was pleased to find that those counsellors who had advocated Umhlakaza's cause had all left, and five of the principal counsellors with him belonged to the party who had strenuously opposed the Umhlakaza movement. This clearly indicated the men in favour, and was more conclusive testimony of Sandilli's resolution than all his professions of opposition to the movements which have been distracting the land, but which have hitherto been so successfully checked in almost the whole of the Gaika district.

Sandilli is still anxious to proceed to Krelli, and told me he would be prepared to start immediately he heard of Krelli's return to the Hotula.

It appears, that after hearing of the late meeting with the Gaikas, Krelli went down to Umhlakaza to ascertain whether what had been predicted could not be brought about without the destruction of all the cattle. I have not heard the answer, but the result has been the partial cessation of slaughtering and selling cattle.

On my return home this evening I found a messenger from Krelli, who had been directed to say, that Krelli was very anxious to see me; and he requested that I should come up as soon as possible.

Before doing anything in this matter, or sending an answer to Krelli, I will await your instructions as to whether or not I shall go.

When I started in the beginning of this week to visit Krelli, it was simply my intention to visit him as a friend, as I have known him long, and am on friendly terms with him.

It was my intention to have reasoned with him on the folly of what he was doing, and to point out to him that he was bringing misery and want upon his people. At that time I thought that my mission might be attended with danger to myself, which I was ready to risk, as I imagined my visit might be productive of good. I at present apprehend no danger.

I thought good would be accomplished, as by Sandilli's going to Krelli on this mission with me he would be taking an open and decided course, which would confirm the party opposed to the prophet, strengthen the wavering, and weaken the influence of the avowed believers.

I also thought that Krelli had gone so far that he was ashamed to draw back, even though he saw his error, and that he might be glad of the opportunity afforded by our friendly advice of undoing what he had done.

And I also thought that though Krelli should disregard our advice, and persist in his evil course, he might in trouble reflect on it; and if ever again occasion should require a warning or friendly voice, it would then not be unneeded.

The observation of the last two days has confirmed the report contained in No. 69. We must improve our advantage, and not relax our exertions, at least until the next new moon; for until the change, belief in Umhlakaza will remain strong; but I think the next moon will finally dispel the illusion.

My horses, as well as myself, require two or three days rest; but after this I shall again be prepared to go out, and my next move will be decided by the answer I receive from you.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) CHARLES BROWNLEE,  
Gaika Commissioner.Colonel Maclean,  
Chief Commissioner.Sub-Encl. 3 in  
Encl. 2 in No. 4.

Sub-Enclosure 3 in Enclosure 2 in No. 4.

SIR,

Keiskamma Hoek, August 15, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to report that everything in the reserve remains quiet and satisfactory, and that for the last four days during this week I have been constantly among the Fingoes in the Amatula, Newazi, and Debe locations, collecting hut tax; they all appeared cheerful, and those who had the money readily paid the hut tax. I was, however, repeatedly asked about war, as they had heard that war was going to break out, and requested me to inform them what they were to do in case of an outbreak. In reply, I informed them that as yet I did not think there was any danger, but recommended them to be on the alert, and as I would be instructed by the Chief Commissioner if there was any likelihood of an outbreak, they would be immediately informed, and directed what to do.

The general impression among the Fingoes is that there will be war with the Kaffirs, though not immediately, as there appears to be, after they have killed all their cattle and destroyed their corn, nothing but starvation staring them in the face, and sooner than starve they will provoke the Government to go to war.

I think the best plan to adopt with reference to the Fingoes, in the event of war, will be to concentrate the whole of those under my jurisdiction at the Keiskamma Hoek and

the Iseli or King William's Town, as they will then be better able to defend themselves and property than living at the different posts near their locations, where they would only be in the way of the troops, and I find that the military generally have no objection to their being near them.

I have also to report that the whole of the Kaffir servants, with one or two exceptions, at this place have deserted their masters, having gone off during the night.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES ATLIFF,  
Superintendent Crown Reserve.

Colonel Maclean,  
Chief Commissioner.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE

### No. 5.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE.

No. 5.

(No. 86.)

Graham's Town, August 25, 1856.

(Received Nov. 3, 1856.)

(Answered No. 120, November 15 1856, page 96.)

SIR,

I HAVE received the enclosed letters from the authorities in British Kaffraria, from which you will learn, I think very gladly, that everything continues quiet there; that the cattle killing and waste of corn has almost ceased; that a very decided change for the better has taken place; and that the Tambookie tribes, who are all faithful to us, believe that from the disunion which exists amongst the Kaffirs no war can take place.

2. You will find from the enclosures to this despatch that some persons think that this is a mere lull, and that disturbances will take place if Moshesh is attacked by the Boers. You will, however, remark that this lull is exactly coincident with the receipt by Moshesh of my letter of the 23d July, a copy of which I enclosed in my despatch No. 74 \* of the 16th instant, and if Moshesh is really at the bottom of these proceedings, I feel tolerably well satisfied that I can now effectually prevent any disturbances from breaking out.

\* Page 3.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

Enclosure 1 in No. 5.

Encl. 1 in No. 5.

MY DEAR SIR GEORGE,

Fort Murrain, August 21, 1856.

EVERYTHING has continued quiet since I wrote to your Excellency on the 18th instant.

The cattle killing and waste of corn has in a great measure ceased; and, from all I can learn, a very decided change for the better has taken place throughout the country. It may, however, be a mere lull until communications are received from Moshesh.

I enclose with my schedule of correspondence a very satisfactory report from Captain Robertson, 60th Rifles, relative to Anta.

Sub-Encl.

I trust the Free State may postpone their attack upon Moshesh until the arrival of the German Legion, when I think it will be in our power to carry out measures with a strong hand; and I presume Moroko's people (Burolongs), Gert Tseuboseh's people (Korannas), Adam Kok's (Grikwas), and also the Bastards, will find it much to their interest to co-operate with us.

I have Kama and Siwani here on a visit, and I am of opinion that Siwani is much inclined to act in conjunction with Kama.

I have not heard from Mr. Brownlee since I last wrote to your Excellency.

Yours truly,

Governor Sir George Grey, Bart.,  
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) JOHN MACLEAN.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

Sub-Encl. in  
Encl. 1 in No. 5.

Sub-Enclosure in Enclosure 1 in No. 5.

Windvogel Berg, August 20, 1856.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report upon the district as special magistrate.

I have nothing particular to bring to your notice. Anta has lately brought one or two cases before me.

I have the satisfaction to state that the conduct of the tribe continues good, and there is no appearance of disaffection towards the Government.

Most of the farmers in this neighbourhood, alarmed by the war rumours, have trekked.

On the 14th instant I paid Anta and four of his councillors their first stipend, on which occasion a large meeting of the tribe took place, when I fully explained to them the state of the country, and spoke of their prospects in case of a war with the English. Anta replied in a long speech with much energy and declamation.

He began by saying that he would speak from his heart; he would not pretend ignorance on the present state of the country. He had been inveigled into the last war by false promises; at the close of that war he found himself alone in the bush, having lost his country and people.

The Governor had now made him an independent chief by sending him a magistrate.

He was consequently unfettered, and could and would act for himself. He did not care for the other chiefs. He did not acknowledge Sandilli, who evidently did not wish to have anything to do with him; for a great meeting had been held the other day at Sandilli's kraal, at which Mr. Brownlee had spoken; this had not been reported to him by Sandilli, as it ought to have been.

He wished the Governor to be his paramount chief.

He concluded his speech by saying he wished me to assure the Governor that he had spoken from his heart, and that in case of an outbreak he might depend upon him and his people.

To judge from appearances, and from private conversations I have had with Anta, I cannot entertain the least doubt of his good faith.

Referring to my last Report, I am of opinion that Mr. Brown was not so much to blame in the affair connected with the impounding of the Kaffir cattle at Queen's Town, the cattle having been found on his farm by the police, and were by them driven off to Queen's Town.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. ROBERTSON,  
Special Magistrate.

Colonel Maclean,  
Chief Commissioner.

Encl. 2 in No. 5.

Enclosure 2 in No. 5.

Civil Commissioner's Office, Queen's Town,  
July 19, 1856.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour, by direction of the Civil Commissioner, to enclose herewith, for the information of his Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, copy of a letter from the Tambookie agent on the present state of the Tambookie tribes, and reporting the result of a meeting of chiefs, convened for the purpose of taking the opinion of the chiefs on the conflicting rumours of war.

I am further directed to mention that the Civil Commissioner entirely concurs in the opinions expressed by Mr. Warner.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. W. H. GIDDY,  
Clerk to Civil Commissioner.

R. Southey, Esq.,  
Secretary to Government, Graham's Town.

Sub-Encl. in  
Encl. 2 in No. 5.

Sub-Enclosure in Enclosure 2 in No. 5.

SIR,

Tambookie Residency, August 16, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to report to you, for the information of his Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, that I held a meeting yesterday of all the principal Tambookie chiefs on the subject of the present war rumours.

At this meeting they expressed themselves in the most open and candid manner. They stated very plainly their belief that the design of the prophet Umhlakaza is to stir up the Kaffir tribes to war, and that Kreli seems to be the leading chief in the matter. They say, however, that they do not think the war party will succeed, as the tribes are not unanimous on the subject.

They have requested me to state very plainly their firm determination to have nothing to do with this agitation, and they have forbidden their people to obey any of the commands of the prophet.

# STATE OF THE KAFFIR TRIBES.

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CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE

They further state that should Krelî really be so foolish as to commence hostilities they shall place themselves at the disposal of the Government, and they are prepared to attack Krelî immediately, should the Government require them to do so, as they have been great sufferers lately by the many acts of theft his people have committed on them.

I have every reason to believe that the chiefs are sincere in these professions, and I would strongly urge that advantage be taken, if necessary, of the hostile feeling which exists between them and Krelî, as should war unfortunately become unavoidable, the only way to keep the Tambookies from joining the confederacy against us will be to get them to take up arms on our side; and which, as far as attacking Krelî is concerned, may very easily be accomplished as long as they continue in their present state of mind.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. C. WARNER,  
Tambookie Agent.

W. G. B. Shepstone, Esq.  
Civil Commissioner, Queen's Town.

Enclosure 3 in No. 5.

Encl. 3 in No. 5.

Fort Murray, August 18, 1856.

Information communicated to the Chief Commissioner by a man just returned from a visit to "Umhlakaza."

I saw "Umhlakaza." He denies all that has been said of him, and says he would like to know by whom so many lies have been spread. Could people not see (pointing to his cattle in his kraal) that he had not killed his cattle? and how could he direct others to do what he had not done himself?

About the time that Maclean went to Fahu's country two oxen (hang horned) were received by Krelî from Moshesh as a present, being, I believe, the first cattle Krelî has ever received from that chief; at the same time I heard that Fahu sent sixty hulls to Moshesh as a token of peace and friendship between them.

(Signed) JOHN MACLEAN,  
Chief Commissioner.

Witness,  
(Signed) G. M. SHEPSTONE,  
Interpreter to Chief Commissioner.

Enclosure 4 in No. 5.

Encl. 4 in No. 5.

Civil Commissioner's Office, Fort Beaufort,  
August 22, 1856.

SIR,

THE week has passed with tranquillity. Some slight indications have been manifested by the farmers of forming lancers against an emergency, while the Fingoes have looked on, and have heard repeated rumours with perfect indifference. I have kept up a confidential intercourse with some of the most sagacious and best informed of these people, who have all along held an opinion that the movement in Kaffirland had nothing for its object of a warlike character; but that the people were under a delusion, and going mad through the artifices of an impostor, called a prophet. I regret exceedingly that our own people are so easily imposed upon as to be induced by every unfavourable rumour to desert their homes, and leave the country an easy prey to marauders.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. STRINGFELLOW,  
Chief Commissioner.

The Secretary to the Lieutenant-Governor,  
Graham's Town.

No. 6.

No. 6.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right. Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 88.)

Graham's Town, August 27, 1856.

(Received Nov. 3, 1856.)

SIR,

(Answered No. 120, November 15, 1856, page 58.)

I HAVE the honour to enclose for your information copies of reports which I have received from the authorities in British Kaffraria up to the 25th instant. Everything in that country now wears a peaceful and tranquil aspect, and the excitement has subsided.

2. I am informed that embassies have for several months been passing between the great chiefs, and that it is believed that Moshesh has been attempting a general combination amongst them. A party of 20 horsemen

D 2

Enclosure No. 1.  
The Chief Commissioner of British Kaffraria to Sir George Grey, 25th August 1856, with Sub-Enclosures.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

arrived at Krel's great place last week direct from Moshesh, and there is from the information before me little doubt that Sandilli, Umlala, and Pato have been consulted on the subject of a general combination.

3. I think, however, that I see my way quite clearly out of all this trouble, and that instead of nothing but dangers resulting from the Kaffirs having during the recent excitement killed their cattle and made away with their food, we can draw very great permanent advantages from this circumstance, which may be made a stepping stone for the future settlement of the country.

I have, &amp;c.

The Right Hon. H. Lahouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

Encl. 1 in No. 6.

Enclosure 1 in No. 6.

## EXTRACT.

(No. 271.)

The Secretary to his Excellency the High Commissioner.

Sir,

Fort Murray, August 25, 1856.

Sub-Enclosure.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a letter from Mr. Vigno, special magistrate with the chief Pato, dated the 20th instant, also from Mr. Brownlee, the Gaika Commissioner, dated the 22d instant.

These enclosures show that everything wears a peaceful and tranquil aspect. I am also happy to add that from all I have seen and learnt the excitement among the natives has subsided and favourable indications continue.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) JOHN MACLEAN,  
Chief Commissioner.

Sub-Encl. 1 in  
Encl. in No. 6.

Sub-Enclosure 1 in Enclosure in No. 6.

To the Chief Commissioner, British Kaffraria.

Sir,

Pato's Great Place, August 20, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I have this day returned from a tour through Pato's country. I was accompanied by Mr. Warner and Mpafa (Pato's son), and starting hence, we went to East London, thence to the mouth of the Keiskamma, and thence to the Ebb and Flow Drift, where Lieut. Lamont is at work with 60 men.

I will now, without intruding my opinion upon you, relate a few observations I made upon the state of things in general during my five days trip.

At East London I heard that the Kaffirs are bringing in hides in large numbers still; that they are buying spears in extraordinary quantities; that labourers are very scarce in the village, but that this road party has been increased by about 20 hands; that considerable numbers of Krel's Kaffirs visit East London with corn, &c. to sell.

Having Mpafa with us, I prepared to pass the night at a kraal; the owner of which proposed to slaughter an ox for me, but I forbid it, thanking him for his intentions. We saw everywhere large numbers of skeletons of cattle lying in the veldt, but still saw at some places considerable numbers of cattle and calves alive. At the kraal where we passed the second night the owner apologized for not killing for me, alleging that his son was ill, and he had had to kill two head a day or two before for two doctors who were attending him. I remarked everywhere that the huts had been lately repaired and thatched, and that there were bundles of Kafir corn kept ready for planting, at the Keiskamma Mouth, the kraal had that day fetched an ox and two calves, being all they had, one of which they slaughtered for food and gave us a shoulder, a portion of which we retained. Here was also Kafir corn, and on my inquiring of them was any for sale, a man came and offered me some to buy. At the Ebb and Flow Drift I could also have bought corn, but not fit for planting. A man named Valentyn said that all the Kaffirs had seed corn; and Mr. Lamont pointed out a garden of large extent which had been enlarged and cleaned ready to dig up at the first rain. I explained everywhere, whenever I knew that they were aware of the fact that the farmers were gone into laagers, that it was only done as a means of defence and preparation, and clearly explained to Valentyn, who is a man of some importance in that neighbourhood, that he was to prevent any Kaffirs crossing the Keiskamma either for hunting or grazing cattle. This I mentioned to Pato since my return. He was satisfied. Mr. Lamont assured me that he had good reason for believing that cattle killing was ceasing. At one place, on the banks of the Keiskamma, I saw huts building, and Mr. Lamont pointed out a kraal of six or eight huts, all newly made.

I must say that the greatest civility was shown us everywhere. Milk for us, and food of all kinds for policemen and Mr. Warner's servant, was given without any demur what-

ever. Our horses I left out loose every night, and Mr. Lamont said his horses were never tied up at night. One of Pato's principal men, Jan, came to meet me in order to lay before me some complaint.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) HERBERT VIGNE.

P.S. I had heard that dogs, cats, and ornaments had been sold recklessly; we met everywhere abundance of the former, several cats, and plenty of ornaments of all kinds, and saw some being made.

Sub-Enclosure 2 in Enclosure in No. 6.

Sub-Encl. 2 in  
Encl. in No. 6.

(No. 71.)

SIR,

Dohne, August 18, 1856.

WITH reference to his Excellency the Governor's suggestions, that advances should be made to the Chiefs in the receipt of stipends or pensions, for the purpose of purchasing the cattle sold by the Galekas, I have the honour to report for your information that previous to the receipt of the document above referred to I had advanced on my own account 12*l*. to Sandilli for the purpose of purchasing oxen and goats, and that the money was to be returned to me in the course of six months, in instalments of 2*l*. per month.

The Galekas have been averse to purchasing the cattle of the Galekas in consequence of many of them having lung sickness, being afraid that they might thus introduce the disease among their own cattle; and the oxen which Sandilli has purchased are not to go to his own kraal, but are to be given to Christian Kaffirs to train and work for him, Sandilli's wish being to have a waggon and oxen to put on the road to earn money for him.

A good many of the Galekas's cattle, which were known to have come from parts of the Galeka country free from infection, have been purchased by such of the Galekas as have money, particularly by those in this neighbourhood, and by my workmen.

The sale of the cattle is now suspended, but if again carried on, I think his Excellency's proposal would be thankfully accepted, and would be productive of good; and having obtained your sanction to do so, I would make a further advance to Sandilli, retaining the money in my own hands until he brought the cattle to me for purchase.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) CHAS. BROWNLEE,  
Galeka Commissioner.

Colonel Maclean, Chief Commissioner,  
Fort Murray.

Sub-Enclosure 3 in Enclosure in No. 6.

Sub-Encl. 3 in  
Encl. in No. 6.

(No. 73.)

SIR,

Dohne, August 22, 1856.

WITH reference to the letter of his Excellency the Governor dated 16th August, and on which you have authorized me to act, I have the honour to report for your information that the reckless selling and destruction of corn and cattle have now happily subsided in this neighbourhood.

During the time of the height of the excitement I would have made arrangements for the purchase of corn at the Thomas River, but I was compelled to give up the idea in consequence of the apparent danger to any party removed to that distance with money in their possession for the purchase of grain.

Notwithstanding the change above stated there will yet be many persons in a state of destitution, and though the charity of government will not be appealed to to the extent I at first imagined, I still think we should secure whatever corn can be obtained at low rates.

I have hitherto been able to purchase corn here at 7*s*. 6*d*. the 180 lbs., whereas its market price in King William's Town has long been above 13*s*., and lately has been as high as 15*s*. the 180 lbs.

Extensive crops were reaped this season about the Thomas River, and the people have a good deal of corn to spare; and I think in purchasing it there, all expenses included, it could be delivered at this place at 7*s*. 6*d*. the 180 lbs., or at the highest 8*s*.

I am purchasing and storing for the working parties whatever I can obtain, but as I expect soon to have an overplus, whatever may not be required here can be conveyed to King William's Town, where it will be most wanted, as little or no want will be experienced in this district in consequence of destruction of corn and cattle.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) CHAS. BROWNLEE,  
Galeka Commissioner.

Colonel Maclean, Chief Commissioner.

CAFE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

Sub-Encl. 4 in  
Encl. in No. 6.

Sub-Enclosure 4 in Enclosure in No. 6.

(No. 78.)

Dohne, August 22, 1856.

SIR, SINCE writing my report No. 71. of 18th instant, matters remain as they were, and the favourable indications continue.

I saw the chief "Oba" the day before yesterday at his kraal on the Kei. I had a satisfactory meeting with the chief and his councillors. all the principal councillors and about 300 of the people having assembled to meet me.

I observed nothing worthy of remark at the numerous kraals by which I passed. I was everywhere cordially received, and matters were in the most tranquil state.

This was quite what I expected to find, all my information regarding the tribe having been of the most favourable nature.

Since my return home yesterday, I have had no direct information regarding Sandilli or the Gaikas in this neighbourhood, but what I have heard is satisfactory.

I have heard nothing new regarding Krelri and the Galekas.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES BROWNLEE,  
Gaika Commissioner.

Colonel Maclean, Chief Commissioner,  
British Kaffraria.

Sub-Encl. 5 in  
Encl. in No. 6.

Sub-Enclosure 5 in Enclosure in No. 6.

SIR, Waterloo Huts, August 22, 1856.

WITH reference to the orders of his Excellency the Governor to purchase from the Kaffirs such corn as they offer for sale below its value, I have the honour to report that in my neighbourhood the opportunity, and necessity also I trust, has ceased, as for the last ten days neither cattle, goats, corn, or any other commodity have been brought to or past my place.

I have the honour also to report that when such things were brought for sale it was invariably Galekas who brought them.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. C. GAWLER,  
Major, and Magistrate with Umhala.

The Chief Commissioner,  
Fort Murray.

No. 7.

No. 7.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 92.)

King William's Town, September 20, 1856.

(Received Nov. 6, 1856.)

(Answered No. 120, November 15, 1856, page 98.)

SIR,

\* Page 21.

IN my despatch No. 88.,\* of the 27th of August last, I informed you that, notwithstanding the reports which had been in circulation in this country of anticipated disturbances, everything wore a peaceful and tranquil aspect, and the excitement which at one time appeared likely to prevail had subsided.

2. I am happy to be able to say that at the present date I am unable to add anything to that despatch. The most vigilant exertions on the part of the authorities in British Kaffraria have failed to elicit any proofs of combination for evil purposes amongst the chiefs, whilst conclusive proof has been obtained of the entire erroneousness of several reports of an unfavourable nature which were in circulation.

3. I have now visited personally the location of each of the principal chiefs, and have seen and conversed with all the leading natives in the country. I have been everywhere received with respect and consideration. They generally complained of the reports which had been spread regarding them, and I failed, after the most careful observation, to detect, in their manner or by any other consideration whatever, any hostile intentions upon their part.

4. The Kaffirs are, however, generally at present in a state of great poverty. I have ascertained that they have upon the whole lost at least two thirds of the cattle in the country from lung sickness; this loss is unequally distributed, many Kaffirs having lost their entire stock, others only a small proportion. There can be no doubt that a people in so impoverished a state may be very easily worked upon for evil, and that until their circumstances have again improved



there will be constant danger. But it is still my opinion that no disturbances will take place, and that good will ultimately result from the present difficulties.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) G. GREY.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

No. 8.

No. 8.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 94.)

King William's Town, September 27, 1856.

(Received December 15, 1856.)

(Answered, No. 143, 31 December 1856, page 98.)

SIR,

IN my Despatch No. 76. of the 16th August last\*, I reported that Moshesh, the chief of the Basuto nation, apprehended that he would at the close of August or the beginning of September be attacked by the government of the Orange Free State. \* Page 4.

2. That a prophet had appeared in Krell's country immediately on the border of Kaffraria, who I believed was encouraged by Krell, acting in concert with Moshesh, and that this prophet was uttering predictions the effect of which would be to place the Kaffir population in such a condition that they would be almost forced to assume a hostile attitude at the precise period at which Moshesh expected to be attacked.

3. I conjectured that Moshesh's probable motives originated in the instinctive feeling of a desire of self-preservation. He believed a great effort was about to be made to destroy himself and his race, in which we were indirectly assisting, by being bound to enter into no treaties with native chiefs, and by preventing his people from obtaining arms and ammunition, whilst we afforded every facility to the governments of the republics to obtain these, and in which we were likely directly to assist by at least large numbers of volunteers passing the Orange River to aid their relatives and fellow countrymen in their attack upon the Basuto nation.

4. In my Despatch No. 74.\* of the 16th of August I also reported that Moshesh, after promising himself to observe a strict neutrality in as far as this colony is concerned, had demanded from me a similar promise in reference to the tribes with which he is connected; and that I had in reply assured him that the British Government earnestly desired in no way to interfere in disputes beyond the Orange River. \* Page 1.

5. About this time a fresh negotiation was entered into between Moshesh and the Government of the Orange Free State, by which the adjustment of the question upon which their future relations for peace or war hung was deferred from the 30th of August until the 25th of September. All excitement then died away, and we heard little or nothing of the prophet; and it appeared that there was no cause to apprehend that the tranquillity of the country would be disturbed.

6. It was however clear, if I had taken a right view of the state of the country, that the close of the present month would again bring dangers and difficulties upon us, and I made use of the lull which prevailed to make every exertion to put the country into such a state that we might be prepared for any emergency which might take place. Lieutenant General Sir James Jackson entirely agreed with me in this opinion, and worked with great energy and zeal to accomplish this object. The timely arrival of the reinforcements sent out by Her Majesty's Government from England has been of the greatest advantage to us, and in the course of next week the necessary preparations will be in so complete a state that Sir James Jackson will be quite prepared for anything which may occur, although I still indulge the belief that no disturbances will take place in British Kaffraria, especially now that our means for repressing such disturbances are so large and apparent to the Kaffirs.

I have next the honour to report that late on the evening of the 25th instant a messenger arrived here from the Orange Free State, and delivered to me a letter from the President of that state, a copy of which, as also of the instructions to this messenger, are herewith enclosed.

Enclosure No. 1.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

8. The President states in his letter, dated 16th of September, "The probability that ere long we will be involved in serious difficulties with the Basutos seems to become daily more certain. The struggle is likely to be deadly, and attended with ruinous losses to this state, where so small and scattered a population has to contend against such large numbers of barbarians, most of whom are well mounted, and provided with fire-arms; but how this is to be avoided I am at a loss to discover."

9. In his instructions the President directs his messenger to ascertain in how far the Free State may be expected to be assisted by me, should it happen that they go to war with Moshesh, of which there appears to be great likelihood; and farther, to ascertain whether I would take it amiss should they in case of need call for volunteers from the colony.

Enclosure No. 2.

Enclosure No. 3.

10. In a letter I wrote to the President on the 23d of July (copy herewith enclosed), I transmitted to him a copy of my letter to Moshesh of the same date, in which I stated in the most distinct terms that the system of policy on which we had determined to act was that of non-interference in any disputes beyond the boundaries of the colony.

11. I now find from general report that the object with which the President has sent a messenger to me is generally known, and that it is confidently stated that if the Free State does not obtain assistance from me they are certain of obtaining extensive assistance by volunteers from the colony; although I think that this is doubtful, even if no steps are taken to prevent it.

12. The day before the messenger from the President arrived here intelligence reached me that a renewed agitation had arisen in that part of British Kaffraria which borders on Krel's country, and that Sandilli had stated that he would obey the injunctions of the prophet, and would not cultivate his land although the rains had now commenced.

13. On the 25th instant, the same day the messenger arrived from the Free State, I received a letter from the Gaika Commissioner stating that Sandilli had been confirmed in this resolution by two messengers who had just arrived, having been sent by Krel to Umhala and Pato, to warn all people on this side of the Kei to kill their cattle, destroy their corn, and not to cultivate their ground; the object of this movement being to establish the independence of the black tribes.

Enclosure No. 4.

Enclosure No. 5.

Sir G. Grey to  
Chief Umhala,  
27th Sept. 1856.

Enclosure No. 6.

Sir G. Grey to  
Chief Sandilli,  
27th Sept. 1856.

14. This day (the 27th instant) I have received a message from the Chief Umhala, informing me (for the first time in the history of this country that this chief has been known to give the Government information of such a nature) that the two messengers from Krel had actually arrived at his kraal, and had delivered Krel's message, that the people on this side the Kei were to kill their cattle, destroy their corn, and not to cultivate. I enclose for your information a copy of the reply which I returned to Umhala, as also of the letter which I now thought it my duty to send to Sandilli.

15. I also received this day a farther letter, marked private, from the Gaika Commissioner, clearly tracing Sandilli's proceedings to the message he had received from Krel.

16. There is now no doubt, as I have previously reported, that the prophet is a tool in the hands of Krel for political purposes. It is also now clear that Krel, without having received any provocation whatever from us, is endeavouring to drive the tribes of British Kaffraria, who recognize him as their paramount chief, into a war with us. Having clearly established this fact, I have sent him a letter, a copy of which is enclosed, which I hope will induce him to retrace his steps.

Enclosure No. 7.

Sir G. Grey to  
Krel, 27th Sept.  
1856.

17. I also think that there can now be no doubt that Krel is acting in concert with Moshesh. Between these two chiefs embassies are continually passing, and a unity of action between them is observable upon such repeated occasions that it can only result from a pre-arranged line of policy having been determined on. I have therefore written to Moshesh a letter, a copy of which is enclosed.

Enclosure No. 8.

Sir G. Grey to  
Moshesh, 27th  
Sept. 1856.

18. I would call attention to the fact, that the messenger from the Government of the Free State to this Government, to seek assistance from the Europeans in the anticipated conflict, should have reached this point almost on the very day the coloured messengers arrived here to the Kafir population, conveying to them orders from their paramount chief to pursue a course which must ultimately force them into a contest with this colony, which they probably

hoped would effect a diversion in favour of Moshesh. This shows how largely the question of peace or war between us and the Kaffir tribes must for some time depend rather upon the will of the government of the Free State than upon our own.

19. The Orange Free State benefit by a belief prevailing that they will be assisted either by the Government of this colony or by volunteers, for in their weak state such a belief adds to their apparent strength in the eyes of Moshesh, and increases their weight in any negotiations with him; whilst if a war takes place between these two powers, any attack made on the colony, to effect a diversion in favour of Moshesh, will draw off enemies who would probably have aided Moshesh against the Free State; whilst I think that it would not prevent any of their friends and relatives who intend to assist the inhabitants of the Free State from proceeding to do so, as they would probably proceed there from interior parts of the colony, which would not feel the effects of a border war.

20. I have stated that I think we shall escape a war. My reasons for thinking so are—

1stly. That I still doubt whether the Free State will yet push matters to extremities with Moshesh.

2dly. That we have now discovered the plans of the intriguing chiefs before they were ripe for execution, and shall therefore, I think, be able to defeat them.

3dly. That there is evidently great disunion amongst them. The fact of a leading chief denouncing their plans to the Government is a thing which has never before taken place, and shows that the Government have a strong party in the country.

4thly. We are so well prepared for war that they will, disunited as they are, dislike to encounter the risk of a contest in which the chances against them appear so great.

21. On the other hand it is to be stated, that although the Free State may not embark in hostilities against Moshesh, and thus prevent a war with that chief, it is yet possible that Krel, in his desire to assist Moshesh, may have pushed matters so far here that nothing can now stop some of the Kaffir tribes from attempting to rush into the colony. The Free State is in this respect in a better condition than we are. They were to be the assailing party, and can stop when they like. We were to be assailed, and whether we shall be so or not depends in no way upon ourselves, but upon uncertain and excitable hordes of barbarians.

22. In several previous Despatches I have stated my belief that in order to ensure our future security there should be some power here authorized to alter the conventions which exist between ourselves and the two neighbouring republics. I have no desire at present to see Great Britain enter into treaties with the native chiefs, still less to see facilities afforded for their obtaining supplies of arms and ammunition for the purposes of war; but when a great and powerful nation like England binds itself by a convention not to enter into treaties with numerous coloured races in the immediate vicinity of her own possessions, and to act as a police for another nation, to prevent these coloured races from obtaining arms and ammunition with which they might defend themselves, I think she should at least preserve such a control over the proceedings of the nations whom she thus benefits at the cost of others that she might take care that they used these vast advantages justly, and well for others, and in a manner which did not compromise the interests or safety of British territories.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

Enclosure 1 in No. 8.

Encl. 1 in No. 8.

Government Office, Orange Free State,  
Bloemfontein, September 16, 1856.

SIR,

I TAKE the liberty of transmitting to your Excellency copy of a letter addressed to the Acting Government Secretary by the landdrost of Smithfield, together with the declaration of five Basutos made before that officer, as to the manner in which they have

E

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

obtained certain fire-arms and ammunition in the Cape colony and at Philippolis, in the hope of enabling your Excellency to find out some of the parties who, there is every reason to believe, are in the habit of supplying the natives with ammunition as well as fire-arms from the Cape colony, or devise some stringent means of putting a stop to a practice so seriously affecting the peaceful relations both of the Cape colony and this state with the numerous hordes of natives.

The probability that ere long we will be involved in serious difficulties with the Basutos seems to become daily more certain. The struggle is likely to be deadly, and attended with ruinous losses to the state, where so small and scattered a population has to contend against such large numbers of barbarians, most of whom are well mounted, and provided with fire-arms; but how this is to be avoided I am at a loss to discover.

Mr. Coleman, the field cornet of the town of Smithfield, who is charged with this letter, is fully capable, and has been requested by me to give your Excellency every information which you may possibly be desirous of obtaining.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) J. BOSCHOP,  
President, Orange Free State.

His Excellency Sir George Grey, K.C.B.,  
Governor of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope.

Sub-Encl. in  
Encl. 1 in No. 8.

Sub-Enclosure in Enclosure 1 in No. 8.

SIR, Government Office, Bloemfontein, September 16, 1856.  
I HAVE been directed by his Honour the President to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th, and to thank you for the offer contained therein.

His Honour authorizes you, whenever you meet his Excellency the Governor, to give him all information as to the state of affairs between us and the Basutos, and as you are as well acquainted therewith as his Honour himself, it will be needless to lay it before you.

It would much please his Honour if you would, when in your power, ascertain from his Excellency in how far we may expect to be assisted by his Excellency, should it so happen that we go to war with Moshesh, of which there appears to be great likelihood.

Also whether the field-pieces ordered for us from England may be expected, and when; if not, whether there would be no chance, should there be war, of our borrowing a field-piece, with the necessary ammunition, for the time; and if so, whether the field-piece could not be forwarded to Aliwal North, where we would fetch it. Further, whether his Excellency would not take it amiss should we, in case of need, call for volunteers from the colony.

Should his Excellency touch upon the settlement of the boundary between the Caledon River District and Moshesh, you may tell him that Moshesh seems always designedly to avoid the question, and that his Honour sees little chance of settling the matter with Moshesh in anything like a reasonable manner; nor would this make any difference on our boundaries with regard to the thefts which have lately been committed, as the thieves would not be punished by us, nor by Moshesh himself.

His Honour would also trouble you with the due delivery of the enclosed letter to his Excellency, containing notice of a communication made to his Honour by the landdrost of Smithfield, concerning certain guns obtained in the colony and ammunition obtained at Philippolis.

It would much please his Honour the President, when you shall have met his Excellency the Governor, to receive information thereof from you by the first following post.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) J. W. SPURTT.

W. F. Coleman, Esq.,  
Field Cornet, Smithfield.

Encl. 2 in No. 8.

Enclosure 2 in No. 8.

SIR, Government House, Cape Town, July 23, 1856.  
I THINK it right to enclose, for your Honour's information, the copy of a letter which I have this day transmitted to Moshesh, in reply to one which that chief addressed to me on the 23d June last, as I feel it due to you that the knowledge of such important communications should not be withheld from you.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) G. GREY.

His Honour the President of the Orange Free State.

Encl. 3 in No. 8.

Enclosure 3 in No. 8.

SIR, Government House, Cape Town,  
July 23, 1856.  
It was with great regret that I learnt from your letter of the 23d June, that, notwithstanding your ardent desire to live in peace with your neighbours, it yet appeared possible that after all the efforts you had made to maintain a state of peace you might be called on to defend yourself in your own territories.

2. I sincerely hope that you are mistaken in these apprehensions, and that by just

and judicious conduct you may still succeed in maintaining peaceful relations with all who surround you.

CAFE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

3. I must confess that the receipt of your letter caused me both sorrow and surprise, containing as it did a notification of the possible speedy commencement of hostilities beyond the Orange River, as I had not recently received any accounts of the existence of such a state of affairs there as was likely to bring on a war, the probable cause of which is quite unknown to me.

4. You assure me that even if a war should break out it will in no degree alter your relations with the Government of this country, and that you will do your utmost to prevent people from passing the Orange River, hoping that this Government will preserve a similar course in reference to your territories, and will preserve an entire neutrality.

5. The general principle on which the British Government desires to act is that of a strict non-interference in any disputes beyond the boundary of the colony. It should, however, be remembered, that in the progress of a war new circumstances from time to time arise, which may entirely alter the relations existing between neighbouring states; a most serious responsibility will thus rest upon any person who may unnecessarily plunge any part of South Africa into the miseries of war. I rely, therefore, with confidence upon your continuing to do your utmost to preserve peace.

6. In order that my views regarding the subjects on which I have addressed you may be known to all parties interested, I shall transmit a copy of this letter to the President of the Orange Free State.

I have, &c.  
G. GREY.

The Great Chief Mosheh.

Enclosure 4 in No. 8.

Encl. 4 in No. 8.

SIR,

Waterloo Huts, September 25, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to report the following news, communicated officially by Umhala, through his son Mackinnon.

"Two men were here from Krel. Krel says, that some days ago a man came from Brownlee telling him not to kill his cattle. Krel said, 'Why should I kill my cattle?' The messenger said, 'Because of Umhlakaza's word.' Krel said, 'Who is Umhlakaza?' The man replied, 'One of your people.' Krel said, 'I know nothing of what you speak; you had better go and find Umhlakaza.' The man replied, 'No; you are his chief, you should go.' Krel said, 'No; you go, and see for yourself, and bring me the news.' The man said, 'Very well, I will go; and I will come to you again in seventeen days.' The days passed, and the man not coming, Krel went to Umhlakaza's, and said, 'Where is Brownlee's man, who came here from my place?' Umhlakaza said, 'I know nothing about him.' Krel said, 'Have you anything to say to me?' Umhlakaza replied, 'Nothing, but that you must kill all your cattle, and eat all your corn.' Krel said, 'Who says so?' Umhlakaza said, 'Those people that you see playing on that hill.' Krel looked, and saw a number of people playing, but did not go to see who they were, but returned home. Krel has ordered all his people to kill all their cattle; and he sends this news to all his chiefs on this side of the Kei, and tells them to do likewise."

Umhala says, moreover, that he (Umhala) has sent for all his chiefs and counsellors, that they may hear the news from Krel's men, and give their opinion upon it.

I thanked him for the news, and said, I had only to remind Umhala of the Governor's expressed wish upon the subject.

I afterwards sent to Umhala, to say I wished to attend the meeting, and would be obliged to him to let me know when it was to take place. He sent me word that he was very glad I was coming, as it was a great matter, and he would let me know.

I understand the word to kill is for all people; Kaffirs, English, and Dutch.

I have, &c.

The Chief Commissioner.

(Signed) JOHN C. GAWLER,  
Major and Magistrate with Umhala.

Enclosure 5 in No. 8.

Encl. 5 in No. 8.

MY FRIEND UMHALA,

King William's Town, September 27, 1856.

IT was very proper on your part to send the message you have received from Krel, that the people on this side the Kei are to kill all their cattle and eat all their corn. I thank you for this message, and for being so open with me.

I thank you also for your message that you have sent, for all your chiefs and counsellors that they may hear this word, and give their opinion upon it.

Before they give this opinion they ought to know everything, and I must be as open with you as you have been with me.

Will you, therefore, when you tell them Krel's message, tell them also mine:—which is this:—

I fear that if they determine to obey Krel's message, other people will follow their example;—that want and starvation will then ensue;—that then stealing and disorder will follow.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

If all this takes place from their following Krelli's orders, I must then, however sorry I shall be to do so, look upon Umhala and his people as enemies.

I trust, therefore, that you will not run this risk, but exert your influence and authority to prevent your people from destroying their property.

I thank you again for your openness and candour; I look upon this as a good sign. You will see I have been equally fair with you.

From your friend,  
(Signed) G. GREY.

Encl. 6 in No. 8.

Enclosure 6 in No. 8.

MY FRIEND SANDILLI,

King William's Town, September 27, 1856.

A MESSENGER has just arrived from my friend Umhala, to tell me of Krelli's messenger, who has arrived with news that the people on this side of the Kei are ordered to kill their cattle and destroy their corn. Umhala, in at once sending to tell me this, has acted openly, fairly, and like a friend. But I have not yet heard if Krelli's messenger has arrived with you, or what was his message, or what was your answer. Let me speedily hear these things.

Perhaps you have sent him away in disgrace, and have returned no answer. I should be glad to hear you had done this. Do not let your pretended friends make a fool of you, and injure your people for their own purposes.

From your friend,  
(Signed) G. GREY.

Encl. 7 in No. 8.

Enclosure 7 in No. 8.

MY FRIEND KRELI,

King William's Town, September 27, 1856.

I HAVE just heard that your messengers have arrived at Sandilli's and Umhala's, and have delivered your message, that the people upon this side of the Kei should kill all their cattle and eat all their corn.

If they obey these orders of yours starvation will follow, then thieving, then disturbances. Of all these you will have been the cause, and they will have been begun by you. If, therefore, they do take place, I shall consider you as the guilty party, and will punish you as such. You are the man who I shall hold responsible for what takes place. My advice to you, therefore, is, that you should forthwith stop this evil, and desire your people not to kill their cattle and destroy their corn. You may thus prevent the mischief which I fear will otherwise overtake you. You have seen that I can be a good friend to you and to your people, and I desire to continue so; but if you force me to take a contrary course, you shall find me a better enemy than I have been friend, for your conduct has been most unprovoked.

Let me hear from you, therefore, that you have taken steps to stop this mischief.

From your friend,  
(Signed) GEORGE GREY.

Encl. 8 in No. 8.

Enclosure 8 in No. 8.

MY FRIEND MONEESH,

King William's Town, September 27, 1856.

MESSENGERS have just arrived from Krelli to all the chiefs in this country, desiring them, in compliance with the orders of a false prophet, to kill all their cattle and destroy all their corn.

The object of this is—first starvation, then thieving, then war.

This is the second time this message has been sent from Krelli's country. There is much room to think that he is acting with your consent and under your advice. The first time the false prophet began his prophecies was in August, when your difficulties with the Free State were to be brought to a termination at the end of that month. The time for doing this was then delayed until the end of this month; then the rumours of these prophecies died away. Now again, as the time for the closing of your arrangements with the Free State comes on, the influence of the prophet suddenly revives, and Krelli sends these messages to the chiefs in British Kaffraria to excite them.

We have ascertained that you have sent frequent messages to Krelli. My friend, this does not look well. I have not acted so with you. I have not taken any part against you. I have not tried to create any difficulties or confusion in your territory.

You must now convince me that you intend to act sincerely towards us. To show this, send forthwith a message to Krelli, telling him without delay to stop his people from killing their cattle and destroying their corn, and explain to me what now looks so doubtful in your conduct.

Write at once, and let me know that you have sent a firm and decided message to Krelli.

From your friend,  
(Signed) G. GREY.

No. 9.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 95.)

King William's Town, September 29, 1856.

(Received Dec. 15, 1856.)

(Answered No. 143, Dec. 31, 1856, page 98.)

SIR,

\* Page 25.

ADVERTING to my Despatch No. 94.\* of the 27th instant, in which I reported that proof had now been obtained that Krelī was the originator of the mischievous and dangerous movement which was going on in British Kaffraria, and that I believed that Krelī was acting in concert with Moshesh, the chief of the Basuto nation, I have now the honour to enclose a report, dated the 23d instant, which I have this morning received by express from the British Resident with the Tambookie tribes, who are situated on the extreme north-eastern boundary of the colony, about 120 miles from this place, and consist of about 70,000 souls.

Enclosure.  
23d Sept. 1856.

2. It will be found from the Resident's report, that Krelī is making the most strenuous exertions to gain over the Tambookies to co-operate with him; and that, writing from a distant point where affairs are presented to him from a new point of view, Mr. Warner thus expresses himself:—

"There is also little doubt but that Krelī is in constant communication with Moshesh and Faku, and I have been informed by a Tambookie, in whom I have considerable confidence, and who from his proximity to Krelī's country is likely to obtain correct information on the subject, that he has in his capacity of paramount chief of Kaffirland sent peremptory messages to all the British Kaffrarian chiefs, ordering them to obey without any further hesitation the commands of Umhlakaza."

3. Events had shown, before this report from Mr. Warner had reached me, that he is quite right in his latter supposition, and my own opinion, as I have already reported, coincides with that which Mr. Warner reports as his, viz., that Moshesh is implicated in the attempts which have been made to disturb the peace of this country, but which, I still think, will prove unsuccessful.

I have, &amp;c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

Enclosure in No. 9.

Enclosure in No. 9.

SIR,

Tambookie Residency, September 23, 1856.

In continuation of my reports respecting the Umhlakazian excitement, I am sorry to have to inform you that the delusion is spreading very rapidly, and that some portion even of the Tambookies are becoming infected therewith. A short time ago several of the Tambookie chiefs sent delegates to Umhlakaza; these have now returned, and as they have brought a favourable report, I fear the rage for cattle killing will now commence among the people of those chiefs. All this is, of course, supposed to be kept a profound secret from me, but there is no doubt of the truth of what I state.

All the Tambookie chiefs, including even those whom I know to be in communication with the sorcerer, continue to make the strongest professions of friendship towards the Government, and I have no doubt but those who are beginning to get entangled in the machinations of the impostor are yielding more through fear of the consequences if they disobey him, than from any inclination or even intention of an hostile nature towards us. The danger is, however, none the less on that account, as I am satisfied that the masses of the common people are sincere in their belief of the impostor, and have no idea that their doing so will involve them in a war with the colony; and I believe that only a select number even of Krelī's own chieftains and councillors have been intrusted by him with the secret of his real intentions.

Krelī has commenced adopting a conciliatory policy towards the Tambookies. His people have been forbidden by him to steal from them, and I have also been informed that he has decided that the country near Clarkebury, about which the two nations have been disputing for years, belongs to the Tambookies.

The adoption of these conciliatory measures by this crafty chief is fast removing the hostile feeling which has existed in the minds of the Tambookies against his people, and in the course of a few short weeks the two nations have passed from a state of almost open hostility to that of apparent friendship.

There is also little doubt that Krelī is in constant communication with Moshesh and Faku, and I have been informed by a Tambookie in whom I have considerable confidence, and who, from his proximity to Krelī's country, is likely to obtain correct information on the subject, that he has, in his capacity as paramount chief of Kaffirland, sent peremptory

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

messages to all the British Kaffrarian chiefs, ordering them to obey without any further hesitation the commands of Umhlakaza. He has also forbidden the cattle, &c., which are doomed to destruction being sold to the traders, as he says that is not fulfilling the prophet's command. This plan is no doubt adopted to deceive us and cause us to fancy that the agitation is dying away.

I may mention that the Tambookie Chiefs Manel and Darala are very zealous in endeavouring to keep matters tranquil, and in consequence of which the latter chief has had a serious quarrel with his father Gueshe, of the nature of which I hope to be in a position to give the particulars in a few days.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) J. C. WARNER,  
Tambookie Agent.

W. G. B. Shepstone, Esq.,  
Civil Commissioner, Queen's Town.

No. 10.

No. 10.

COPY of a DESPATCH from GOVERNOR Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 96.)

King William's Town,  
September, 29, 1856.

(Received Dec. 15, 1856.)

(Answered No. 143, Dec. 31, 1856, page 98.)

SIR,

\* Page 25.

In my Despatch No. 94\*, of the 27th instant, I reported that I had ascertained that a message had been sent by Krelu as paramount chief of the Kaffir tribes to Sandilli, directing all the people on this side of the Kei to kill their cattle, destroy their corn, and not to cultivate their ground, the object of this movement being to establish the independence of the black tribes.

2. I further reported that Sandilli appeared then inclined to follow Krelu's directions, and that he had not reported to the Government the fact of his having received this message, as Umhala had done. I also enclosed for your information a copy of the message which I had thereupon sent to Sandilli, suggesting to him the course which I thought he ought to pursue.

3. You will be glad to learn, from the enclosed copy of a report which Colonel Maclean has just received and placed in my hands, that whilst I was despatching my message to Sandilli he had, acting under, I suspect, almost the compulsion of the great majority of his counsellors, adopted the very course I thought he ought to pursue; that is, that he had himself communicated to the Government the fact of Krelu having sent a message to him, the purport of that message, and his own intention and that of his people to disregard it. Nothing can be more satisfactory than this intelligence is.

4. I take this opportunity of also transmitting for your information the copy of a report of a great meeting of Pato's tribe, which was held upon the 26th, at which also the most satisfactory resolutions were come to.

5. The only tribe which has not as yet declared their determination to disregard the orders of Krelu is Macomo's tribe, but I have no doubt that they will now follow the general example.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) G. GREY.

Enclosure No. 1.  
Mr. Brownlee to  
Colonel Maclean,  
27th Sept. 1856.

Enclosure No. 2.  
Report of meeting  
—Pato's Tribe,  
26th Sept. 1856.

Enclosure 1 in No. 10.

Encl. 1 in No. 10.

(No. 97.)

SIR,

Dohne, September 27, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to report for the information of his Excellency the High Commissioner that Sandilli and Xoxo, attended by a number of their well-disposed councillors, have just left me, having arrived here late this afternoon.

Sandilli informed me that yesterday he had a meeting of his councillors, at which he intimated to them his determination of cultivating his ground, urging them to do the same; he told them also that it was his determination to adhere to his resolution, already made known to them, to oppose the killing of cattle in his tribe.

Sandilli further stated, that Krelu had been to see Umhlakaza, and that a messenger had been despatched by Krelu to inform Sandilli of the result, but that he was taken suddenly ill after crossing the Kei, where he now is, and on his arrival Sandilli would acquaint me, that I might hear his message, and give my advice on it.



From information which I have to-day received, it appeared that the party opposed to "Umhlakaza," headed by "Tyala," having mustered their whole strength, carried the day with but small opposition, and that immediately after Sandilli gave his decision the opposition left without saying a word.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

After the opposition had left, Kembili, a man of great decision and firmness, next to Tyala in the party, urged on Sandilli no longer to listen to the lies of every passer by, an entreated of him, if he valued the friendship of Government and the welfare of his people, to be amiable with me, to consult me on all matters, and to report to me the arrival of Kredi's messenger, that I may hear his message, and Sandilli's answer. This I believe is the reason why Sandilli informed me of the despatch of "Kapu" by Kredi.

Some of the Gaikas have begun to cultivate their fields, and Sandilli informs me that he will begin to-morrow.

Before speaking to Sandilli, or hearing the result of the meeting, I felt convinced by a glance at the counsellors that the result was favourable, for the despondency and dejection which had of late been so clearly depicted on their countenances had now been displaced by as unmistakable looks of satisfaction and triumph.

Before leaving, Sandilli said, that though I had been dissatisfied with him, now that I knew his views, he hoped I would forget the past, and that our intercourse should be carried on as heretofore.

I expressed my satisfaction at what Sandilli had said; I hoped he would show to the Government, and to his people, that he was a man of his word, and that he would not be moved from his present position, either by chiefs or counsellors. He simply replied that I would see.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) CHAS. BROWNLEE,  
Gaika Commissioner.

Colonel Maclean, Chief Commissioner,  
British Kaffraria.

Enclosure 2 in No. 10.

Encl. 2 in No. 10.

#### MINUTES of a Meeting at Pato's Great Place.

September 26, 1856.

Pato addressed them:—

I have assembled you to hear my word with regard to the many thefts which have been committed in my country. My word is that this thieving must stop. I don't know why you have given up tracing spoors. If a spoor is traced into your country you must take it up, and follow it till you catch the thieves and report it to me. I will have no more complaints brought in; and I will punish severely any one who commits theft. I have always served the Government and still mean to do so, you must do the same. You wanted a shop, there was to have been one, but the shopkeeper was afraid. Thefts bring on war; I do not want war. This is my word.

Guma, a counsellor, spoke:—

We thank you, chief, for what you have said to your people. You do right in saying what you have said. You speak the truth when you say you serve the Government, and that your people must do the same, as we know you are under the Government. We want a shop.

Xosa, a counsellor, spoke:—

We thank you, chief, for what you have said. You have said you serve the Government. After you have expressed your opinion as you have done, no one will differ from you.

Valentya, a counsellor, spoke:—

We thank you, chief, for what you have said. Your tribe has always been known to pay great attention to what the Government say. We never heard of robberies before in your country. Even shops in your country have never been injured, and even in war time they have been protected.

Nyanao, a counsellor, spoke:—

You hear, people of the chief. You must listen to the word of your chief. We also want a shop, as we have not much food. The shopkeeper must bring plenty of meal.

Unke, a counsellor, spoke:—

We thank you, chief, for what you have said. No one here will differ from you. Your people must pay attention to what you say. The people must pay attention to what you say. The people must look well after spoors, and trace them till they catch the thieves. We want a shop, as we have to carry our hides a long way.

Stoek, chief, spoke:—

You hear the word of your chief. You, Amantulu, also hear. You are all living in this country. You must therefore not make his country dirty. If you know a thief, although he is your relation, you must seize him and bring him to the chief.

Umpassa, Pato's son, spoke:—

You hear, people of the chief, war is a bad thing. Pay attention to the word of your chief. To sit by the fire in the bush is not pleasant, it is better to live in the house.

Mamani, a counsellor, spoke:—

Listen to the word of your chief; he speaks the truth; you must keep his word.

CAFE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

*Delima*, Pato's great son, spoke:—

There must be no war, and then those that have left their houses on the other side of the Keiskamma will see that what has been said is false; that Pato does not mean war.

Pato then asked Vigne to say a few words, and told them to listen to him, as he was not only sent to live with him, but with them also.

He said:—You have heard the words of your chief. I am satisfied with what Pato has said; it is what I expected Pato would say. The governor will assist Pato in keeping his people in order. The Government wish to do it through the chief Pato. The governor does not want war, and will not begin it. The governor does not want bloodshed. The Government is determined that these systematic robberies shall cease. The Government does not want Pato's country. I now wait your word to your chief, whether you will listen to him or not.

*Xosa*, a counsellor, spoke:—

We thank you and Pato for what you have said. No one here will differ in opinion from what Pato has said.

Pato then told Vigne that he had spoken to his people regarding the headmen, &c.; also regarding the police at Fort Pato, and asked him to refer to it briefly.

Vigne said:—

You want a shop in your country, there was a man fixed on to come. The chief promised his protection, but the man is still afraid to come. I have confidence in your chief, and did not like to have a shopman with me who had not confidence in the chief's word. Maclean is now looking out for a man who will bring plenty of food with him to sell. You have alluded to war. Government know Pato's heart, and you people have only to say the word to your chief. If you want war you can have it. Government is so determined to help Pato, that he proposes to divide his location into sub-districts, each to be under a headman and assistants of Pato's choosing; these will be responsible to your chief; also, these people being paid by the Government, will be doubly bound to assist him. This is all I will now say.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) HERBERT VIGNE.

Truly interpreted,  
(Signed) E. WARNER.

No. 11.

No. 11.

COPY of a DESPATCH from GOVERNOR SIR GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 97.)

King William's Town, October 3, 1856.

(Received Dec. 15, 1856.)

SIR,

In order that you may be able to form an idea of the distress at present prevailing amongst some of the Kaffir tribes from the disease amongst horned stock called lung sickness, I herewith enclose a return showing the comparative number of cattle lost by some Kaffirs out of their entire stock.

2. I also enclose the copy of a letter from Mr. Scott, a very intelligent merchant of this place, which shows that about 130,000 hides, believed to be principally those of cattle which had died from lung sickness, have been exported from the province since the appearance of that disease, although previously the article of hides had only formed a very inconsiderable article of export.

3. In addition to the hides so exported, quantities of hides are purchased in other parts of Kaffraria, and are sent overland to Algoa Bay; large numbers of hides are also upon account of distance from market or from other causes made use of by the Kaffirs themselves, or thrown away. The return enclosed in Mr. Scott's letter only serves therefore as a means of conveying an idea of the magnitude of the total loss which the Kaffirs have sustained.

4. It should always be remembered, however, that this loss has as yet only fallen with full force on certain districts, as other parts of the country have been almost entirely free from lung sickness. In these latter districts the people are still well off.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) G. GREY.

Enclosure No. 3.  
Rev. R. Birt to  
Sir George Grey,  
3d Oct. 1856.

P.S.—Since I wrote the above despatch, the enclosed letter from one of the mission stations in British Kaffraria has reached me, from which you will learn with great regret that in some parts of this country the distress is now so

great that there is reason to fear that some children are already dying of want. Every effort shall be made by the Government to relieve this impending distress by all legitimate means; indeed, I had yesterday, before receiving the enclosed intelligence which has just reached me, ordered that a supply of seed corn should be sent to the very district from which this letter comes.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

G. G.

Enclosure 1 in No. 11.

Encl. 1 in No. 11.

RETURN showing the Number of Cattle which have died from Lung Sickness, belonging to the under-mentioned Chiefs.

Delima, about	-	-	60 out of 70
Fuku, about	-	-	2 " 25
Xaku	-	-	130 " 160
Klass, all dead	-	-	9
Cobus Congo, about	-	-	130 out of 150
Stock, all dead	-	-	110
Sandilli, his son	-	-	10
Piet Congo, all dead	-	-	20
Kasini, all dead	-	-	20

Enclosure 2 in No. 11.

Encl. 2 in No. 11.

DEAR SIR,

King William's Town, September 25, 1856.

AGREEABLE to my promise I enclose a memorandum of the probable number of cattle that have died or been killed from superstition. I find on referring to my books that an inconsiderable number of hides had been made an article of export from East London previous to the breaking out of the sickness, and the number on that account may be slightly exaggerated.

I may mention that this estimate will not correspond with the customs at East London, as large quantities of hides were sent to Graham's Town, and thence to Algoa Bay.

The number would also be enlarged by the fact that large numbers of hides were thrown away, it being punishable for any one to sell the hides of cattle that died of this sickness. There are at present large quantities of hides lying beyond the Kei awaiting transport, which at present cannot be viewed as forming any part of this calculation.

I remain, &c.

John Ayliff, Esq.

(Signed) WALTER SCOTT.

Sub-Enclosure in Enclosure 2 in No. 11.

Sub-Encl. in  
Encl. 2 in No. 11.

MEMORANDUM of Hides purchased by Mr. Walter Scott, at King William's Town and East London, from 1st January 1854 to 31st August 1856, viz:

1,303,000 lbs. of hides, value 14,100*l*.

Supposing this to be one third of the whole purchased during the above stated time, the result would be

3,909,000 lbs. of hides, value 42,300*l*.

and allowing 30*lbs*. to be the average weight of each hide, the number would be 130,300 hides.

Enclosure 3 in No. 11.

Encl. 3 in No. 11.

To his Excellency Sir GEORGE GREY, K.C.B., Governor, High Commissioner,  
&c. &c. &c.

May it please your Excellency,

As the subject is not official business, I trust that I shall be pardoned for thus addressing your Excellency directly, and not through the ordinary channel.

The report which your Excellency heard concerning groups of Kaffir women returning from the Fingoes without obtaining food I am sorry to say it is too true. Several such parties have been seen by my people, and spoken with, who have been unsuccessful, or who have only obtained to a small extent.

Your Excellency will form an idea of the already sad state of some of the people by the following, which are here currently related as facts. The first is that of a child of a man, professing to be and regarded as a gogo or prophet, not many miles from this in the Xroon, has died of want. It is said the man did not plant last year, and his cattle are killed. In the same river, but a short distance from this, a child fainted from hunger; a little milk was obtained from a neighbour, by which the child was restored. This caused great complaint against their prophet. Women were beating their breasts, and exclaiming "Verily Umhlakaza is killing our children."

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

I am sorry to add, that I fear their seed has been destroyed to a very great extent. It will be a matter worthy your Excellency's consideration, whether or not a little seed should be distributed,—say not more than one quart at once to one person, and that only when it can be ascertained that it is used for that purpose. In former years of scarcity I have by such means administered large relief by small means.

Should the famine become so great as to need your Excellency's assistance to be extended, it has occurred to me that these out-schools now in formation might be the means of extending relief to the young by some arrangement to cook a given quantity daily for the children in attendance.

Your Excellency will be gratified to learn some of my people having oxen have promised to plough for those teachers who are to go into Kaffriland, that they may go at once and without anxiety about their families' supply.

Should it yet be your Excellency's wish to visit us on the Sabbath, our services are,—school, nine o'clock; first service, eleven: second school, two or half past; second service, one hour after.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RICHARD BIRT.

Peelton, October 3, 1856.

No. 12.

No. 12.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 102.)

Cape Town, October 18, 1856.

(Received Dec. 15, 1856.)

(Answered No. 144, January 2, 1857, p. 99.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward the following report upon the present state of the province of British Kaffraria, which I have written with a view of furnishing information upon several points regarding which you have proposed questions to me, or regarding which I cannot discover that sufficient information has ever been sent to your department.

2. This province is bounded on its north-east or inland side by the Amatola range of mountains, the highest peak of which is about 4,000 feet high; this range runs nearly parallel to the sea at a distance of about 50 miles from it. Inland of this range are high open grassy plains, at present uninhabited, extending far inland, and forming no part of the province of British Kaffraria, the limit of that province being the highest ridge of the Amatola mountains.

3. The seaward side of the range is intersected by deep rocky kloofs, clothed with forests of large trees, in which many rivers rise; these kloofs open, even in the mountain range, into wide and fertile valleys.

4. From the base of the range an undulating country, sometimes rising into high ridges, falls away to the sea, which is cut through in some places by rocky kloofs containing forests. The country is generally clothed with rich grass, covered with clumps and woods of mimosa bushes; it is in every direction traversed by rivers or small streams. It is separated from the colony on the western side by the Keiskamma River, which rises in the Amatola range, and runs between the colony and British Kaffraria to the sea. Immediately on the right bank of the Keiskamma a narrow line of scattered colonists has been located; in their rear, and between them and the main body of the colonists, large tribes of Fingoes have been heaped together in locations containing many thousand souls. It is separated from Kaffraria Proper on the eastern side by the Kei (distant from the Keiskamma about 60 miles), which likewise rises in the Amatola mountains. A small part of British Kaffraria stretches along the Kei into the colony, but the boundaries I have above roughly stated are sufficiently accurate for this report.

5. From the foregoing description of British Kaffraria it will be seen that, although it is only a narrow strip of country of very limited extent (containing not more than 3,050 square miles), it is yet fertile, well watered, and richly grassed, and therefore capable of supporting a very dense population, and a large amount of stock. From these characteristics spring the great majority of results which will be explained in this report.

6. The European population in British Kaffraria, exclusive of the military, consists of but 1,200 souls, 626 of whom are the inhabitants of the capital, King

William's Town, and the remainder are scattered through the five villages named in the margin, and were located at these villages at the dates indicated. An enclosure shows the number of Europeans who have gathered round the several military posts.

## CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Village.	Estab- lished.
East London	- 1848
Isiti	- 1858
Port Murray	- 1848
Keiskamma	
Beek	- 1853
Dohne	- 1853

Enclosure No. 1.  
Census of Eu-  
ropean population.

7. Throughout Kaffraria the natives live along the ridges and slopes of the hills which bound the courses of the streams, in collections of huts termed kraals. The huts are shaped like a beehive, built with a framework of poles, then plastered with cow dung, and thatched all over with grass. They are about six or seven feet high, with a diameter of from 14 to 18 feet; they are inhabited generally by the family, sprung from one wife, as well as by some of her relations, consisting in the whole on the average of about four or five souls.

8. The number of huts composing a kraal or village varies exceedingly, but the average number of inhabitants in each kraal, including men, women, and children, is about 20 or 25. The average number of cattle attached in ordinary times to a kraal is about one head of cattle for each human being. Each tribe resides in this manner in a separate district of country, under its own hereditary chief, although they are occasionally intermixed.

9. The most numerous of their tribes consists of upwards of 17,000 souls, the weakest of about 800; the total number of tribes in British Kaffraria is 14; the average strength of each tribe is at least 5,500 souls. The entire number of adult males capable of bearing arms must be upwards of sixteen thousand, a considerable proportion of whom are armed with fire-arms, the remainder with assegais.

10. Each tribe is governed by an hereditary chief, who is assisted in all public matters by a certain number of hereditary counsellors. All cases of importance are heard and decided by the chief and some of his counsellors, who impose a fine (almost invariably so many head of cattle and horses) upon the party to whom they attribute guilt. The fine is levied by the proper officers, and upon its being brought to the chief's kraal, these are first paid from the fine, for levying it; the chief then takes such portion as he pleases for himself, distributing a part of this amongst the counsellors who heard the case; the remaining portion of the fine, in a private case, is handed over to the complainant, who shares his portion amongst those of his friends who assisted him in the conduct of the case, the collection of the evidence, &c. All persons who are members of the tribe are regarded as the absolute property of the chief; hence, in all cases of murder or acts of violence committed on the person, the whole fine imposed and levied in the first instance is taken by the chief, although he again gives a share of this to his counsellors.

11. The fines thus taken for the administration (as it may be termed) of justice constitute a very large part of the revenue of the chief; and as the counsellors generally only remain for a few weeks about the person of the chief, being then succeeded by others, the same fines enable him also to maintain about him at all times a certain retinue of attendants, to whom the same system of fining becomes a source of considerable profit, as it is also to all the petty officers employed under the Kaffir system of polity.

12. The alleged offence of witchcraft (a public crime) subjects a person found guilty of it to torture and death, and the total confiscation of his property. No sooner, therefore, does a person grow rich, than he is almost certain to be accused of this offence, and is, at least, stripped of all he possesses.

13. The Kaffir tribes as a whole are under the direction of one hereditary paramount chief, Krelli, who issues on certain subjects his orders to them, and who they regard as their paramount ruler. This chief resides out of our territories in Kaffraria Proper, owes us no allegiance, and in no way recognizes our authority.

14. Each tribe inhabits a separate district of country, called here a location. As I have already stated, their kraals or villages are placed along the grassy ridges and slopes of the hills which bound the courses of the streams. The country is very rich in grass, and carries a very large proportion of stock compared with its extent; hence it is densely inhabited (the proportion of inhabitants is in some places 32 souls for every square mile), and several kraals are nearly always in sight of each other; and the war cry being raised at any of them, spreads from one to the other on every side with wonderful rapidity, and soon reaches the extremities of Kaffirland; so that continuous streams of

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warriors, led by their proper petty chiefs, coming from great distances, soon hurry from various directions towards any point which has been indicated in the alarm which was raised.

15. These warriors are also generally found ready to take the field at a moment's notice. For the greater part of the year they lounge idly about their kraals throughout the day; their pursuits being principally pastoral, varied by occasional hunting parties in their own immediate neighbourhood, or dances on such occasions as weddings, &c. The men milk their cattle, enclose their cultivations and cattle kraals, and build the frames of their houses. The women thatch the houses, collect the firewood, and perform the principal part of the field work. In the months of September, October, November, and the early part of December the ground is cultivated; and the harvest is gathered in at the latter end of February and the beginning of March. They rarely or never wander with their cattle from place to place, the pasturage around each kraal being amply sufficient for their wants. At present they confine their attention to horned stock, horses, goats, and poultry.

16. Each watercourse, or rather the group of kraals in the country on each side of the watercourse, is under the authority of an hereditary petty chief or headman, and each such group of kraals is again broken up into minor subdivisions, which are placed under hereditary chiefs of a still more subordinate rank. All their petty chiefs act under the orders of the principal chief, from whom they derive their authority, and any remuneration which they receive in the form of fees, paid in cattle, horses, goats, and assegais.

17. It will thus be seen that each location of a chief contains in point of fact a standing army, properly officered, maintained in a certain state of discipline, ready to take the field at a moment's notice, and subject to the direction of an hereditary chief, who is assisted in all his decisions by hereditary counsellors, a number of whom are always in attendance upon him. The system of organization is complete. The position of the hereditary counsellors, of the numerous hereditary petty chiefs, all depends upon the authority of the principal chief being supported. A system in the efficient maintenance of which so large a number of persons are interested, and which is, moreover, interwoven with all the customs of the people, and supported by superstition, and by that veneration which long antiquity always commands, is very difficult to shake or overthrow.

18. The total coloured population of British Kaffraria consists of at least 90,000 souls, thus divided:—

Kaffirs.	Gaikas	-	-	-	38,000
"	T'Slambies	-	-	-	39,000
"	Galekas	-	-	-	5,000
Fingoes	-	-	-	-	8,000
					<hr/> 90,000

19. So capable is the country of supporting a large population, that excluding for the present from our consideration the Fingoes who are located in the Royal Reserve, which contains 600 square miles, the whole of the Kaffir population are contained in nine locations, containing in the whole only 2,450 square miles, and yet that extent of country would carry a much larger population; and the Kaffirs, instead of decreasing in the presence of the white man, are now increasing, and will in a few years fill up the country they occupy.

20. British Kaffraria thus presents a small extent of territory, inhabited by 90,000 souls; a larger proportion of whom than amongst European races are trained to war, capable of bearing arms, and well armed, who are in a perfect state of organization ready to take the field at a moment's notice, fond of war, and practised in that art by numerous campaigns.

21. For the present I exclude from consideration Kaffraria Proper, which lies beyond British Kaffraria, and is the residence of the hereditary chief of the Kaffir tribes, although the same description applies to it. Its inhabitants have only to cross a river to join their fellows in any war upon the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope. The population of Kaffraria Proper is more numerous than that of British Kaffraria, although its people are less bold and determined as enemies. It may be sufficient here to state that if all the Kaffir tribes who are now under the influence of Krel, the paramount chief, join in a war, they can bring 35,000 warriors into the field. In this number no reference is made to Faku, Mosheah, &c.

See map.

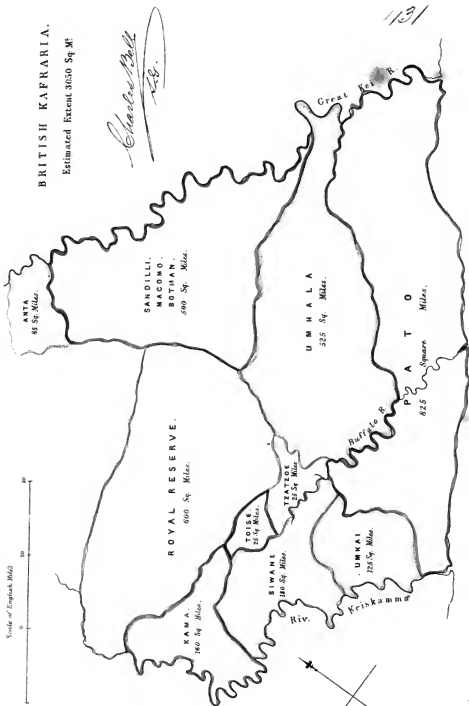
Enclosure No. 2.  
Census of Gaika  
and T'Slambie  
tribes.

BRITISH KAFARIA.

Estimated Extent 3050 Sq. M<sup>2</sup>

Charles Bell

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22. Turning now to the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope. It is 217,700 square miles in extent; that is, it is seventy-one times larger than British Kaffraria; yet it contains but 248,625 inhabitants (only 101,491 of whom are Europeans), many of whom are not trained to arms and whose organization is very imperfect. I think that it is hopeless to expect that a population in this state, numbering in the whole less than 250,000 souls, scattered over an extent of country seventy-one times larger than British Kaffraria (in the proportion of not one third of a person to a square mile), could, if unaided, successfully defend themselves against such a race as the Kaffirs, who can in a few hours bring their whole well-trained and completely organized force to bear upon any point they like; their irresistible numbers must, in the first rush of such an onset, carry everything before them. In order that the population of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, regard being had to extent of territory, may be placed upon a numerical equality with that of British Kaffraria alone, it must be increased from 248,000 to 6½ million souls. When the scattered farmers of the colony lived in a country abounding with game,—when every man was a huntsman, a practised horseman and shot,—when the natives knew not the use of fire-arms, and were ignorant of the European method of carrying on war,—the unaided colonists could hold their ground. Now, that game has almost disappeared from the colony, that the Kaffir is as well armed as the colonist, and far more practised in the art of war, I feel satisfied that no one who dispassionately considers the conditions of the problem presented to him will arrive at the conclusion that the colonists are at present or can for a long time be in a condition to provide for their own defence.

23. If this problem was complicated by a statement of the large numbers of Fingoes, in instances nearly as barbarous as the Kaffirs, who are collected in masses on the borders of the colony, its solution would appear still more hopeless.

24. Having thus reviewed the general relation in which, in point of territory, numbers, disposition, and organization of the population, British Kaffraria and the Cape Colony stand towards each other, I will briefly state the system which has recently been pursued in reference to the Kaffir population.

25. It has been seen that in each location lived one or more haughty hereditary chiefs, surrounded by their counsellors and retainers, administering such laws as they thought proper, each maintaining a large standing militia, entirely under their own orders and control, well armed, in a state of perfect organization, ready to take the field at a moment's notice, in the immediate vicinity of a scattered and comparatively very small European population, whose property was a constant source of excitement to their cupidity. A large force, recently averaging six thousand men, has been maintained here by Great Britain to protect these scattered European settlers from their barbarous neighbours. These British troops have been stationed either within the colony to defend the border, or in British Kaffraria, in the vicinity of the chiefs' locations, to keep their followers out of a large tract of territory (forming one fifth of the whole of British Kaffraria) called the Royal Reserve, which, as being a Kaffir stronghold, we did not choose they should occupy, on account of the difficulty we should have had in driving them out of it in the event of another war. No more difficult task can be found than that of keeping large bodies of uncivilized men out of a vast unoccupied mountainous country which they claim as their own, and to which they are fondly attached.

26. The territories occupied by Kaffirs and termed locations, the chiefs are said to hold as a conquered people (although it is admitted that they have never been conquered or subdued), that is, their lands are held only during pleasure. The Crown takes whatever tracts of country it requires for forts, and requires the people on such tracts to move (the size of each such tract is a circle with a diameter of four miles). The Crown also assumes all lands it requires for roads (reserving such breadth as it pleases on each side of the road,—in the instance of one road, 60 miles long, two miles has been reserved upon each side of it), or for quarries, or for other public purposes. The Crown gives to private persons licences to quarry or cut timber on the land occupied by any chiefs and their followers. The chief can give no such licence. Thus throughout British Kaffraria the native has no recognized right or interest in the soil. There was no tie whatever in this respect between the chief and the Government. On their own hereditary lands the Kaffirs were strangers, to be required at any time to move from the most cherished spot, without any reason for their being required to do so being assigned. So little power had a chief

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over his own location, that no Europeans, with the exception of missionaries (if they obtained the permission of the Government to do so), were allowed to reside in these locations, even for the purposes of commerce or trade. At each of two of the mission stations a trader had been allowed to settle.

27. There was no bond of union between the Kaffir chiefs and the Government; they, isolated with their retainers, lived secluded in their territories, kept down by an armed force, watching every movement they made in what were once their hereditary dominions.

28. So complete was this system of isolation from Europeans, that at the few points where the Kaffirs were permitted to trade no person was allowed to buy anything from a Kaffir for the purpose of selling it again unless he had taken out an annual licence, for which he paid twenty pounds; thus, the trifling trade that was allowed was a monopoly.

29. Generally, a Kaffir who wished to sell hides, horns, corn, or other produce, had first to carry it through a country without roads for a distance of frequently twenty or thirty miles, often more, then to sell it to a person who had the monopoly of the trade, and finally to carry back the same distance as he had come the goods for which he had exchanged his original burden. It may be questioned whether a country in a high state of civilization would not sink into a state of semi-barbarism if it were subjected by force to such a system for even a few years.

30. The only medium of communication between the Government and the Kaffir tribes were two commissioners,—one for the Gaika tribes, one for the T'Slambie,—who arranged disputes which arose between Europeans and natives, and inquired into cases of robberies or outrages which occurred upon roads running through native countries, carrying out such cases through the chiefs simply using such influence over them as could be exercised by argument and persuasion.

31. These cases related chiefly to cattle and horses which were stolen, and the law which regulated the recovery of these was as follows:

The spoor when traced into a location was shown to the inhabitants of the nearest kraal, who were bound to trace it on; if they did not, the chief was applied to, and was required to make the inhabitants of the kraal give as compensation double the amount of stock lost, which, from the inferior nature of the Kaffir cattle, hardly paid for the stock that had been stolen.

32. If the spoor was carried on by the people of the first kraal, as soon as they had traced it on to another kraal it was carried on by the people of that place, and thus it was taken from kraal to kraal until the place the stolen stock had been taken to was discovered. The inhabitants of that kraal were then required to give cattle in compensation. The chief in levying the compensation takes much more than he restores, retaining the residue as his own fee and as those of his several officers.

33. I think it is impossible to consider carefully such a state of things as I have described without coming to the conclusion that a powerful, thoroughly organized, and military nation as the Kaffirs are, must, if left in such a condition, be expected every few years to break out into war, and it is certain that until the colony of the Cape of Good Hope contains an infinitely denser population than it does at present it cannot protect itself against such a war.

34. The best hope that presents itself to my mind for the future is that of our adopting the Kaffir system of polity into our own. That is, instead of leaving them as something beyond and distinct from the Government, attempting to make every chief of importance look to the Government for his remuneration, and requiring them to carry on those duties of magistrates, police, &c. which they exercise at present under the direction of British officers. In this manner the Government may by degrees gain a hold over every part of British Kaffraria; it may improve the tenure on which the chiefs and people hold their lands, and give them a vested interest in the soil; it may greatly increase their facilities for trade; whilst by availing itself of the complete system of organization which already exists the Government may make the Kaffir system a part of the government of the country, with which the whole of the native chiefs may by degrees become so interwoven that they will in fact be as it were incorporated or adopted into the Government, of which they will form a necessary and important part.

35. I hope that the chiefs of every rank, finding that they are thus directly connected with the Government by benefits which they can all feel and appre-

ciate (instead of being absolutely isolated from it and having nothing to thank it for as hitherto), may by degrees become attached to a Government of which they form so large and influential a portion.

36. If such a result can be arrived at with the tribes of British Kaffraria, they will then form a barrier against the tribes beyond our limits. The great difficulty in carrying out these changes, and in rendering them permanent, is the danger, constantly existing, that war may again break out before the Kaffirs as a nation have fully understood and appreciated the benefits which are being conferred upon them.

37. But even if such an untoward event does take place, I still think that the only hope for the future is a steady return to the same principles the moment that such a war has been effectually crushed.

38. So impressed have I been with the belief that the development of this policy presented the only hope of by degrees putting an end to the evils which have for so many years afflicted this frontier, that I have never ceased to labour towards this end; and at the present time, in so far as British Kaffraria is concerned, every chief has consented to exert himself to bring about such a change as I have proposed. Every chief is therefore at the present time acting under the direction of the Government, and as a recognized agent of the Government. But there is still this difficulty in the way,—that the admitted paramount chief of all Kaffraria resides beyond our limits, in no way recognizes our authority, and is, I fear, inclined to throw every obstacle in the way of changes which he regards with jealousy.

39. In fact Krelli longs for war; he has hitherto never suffered by wars in which he takes no part, and all the evils of which fall on the tribes of British Kaffraria who are in front, whilst the greater part of the booty invariably becomes his, as it is sent to the rear for safety.

40. Krelli has hitherto always escaped real punishment, for his territories lie so far from the colony, that to carry the war there is so long and expensive an operation, that every one has shrunk from entering upon it, on such a scale as could have enabled us to derive any permanent benefit from such an undertaking.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

Enclosure 1 in No. 12.

Encl. 1 in No. 12.

BRITISH KAFFRARIA.

CENSUS of European Population exclusive of Military.

Stations.	Men.	Women.	Children.		Total Souls.
			Boys.	Girls.	
King William's Town - - - -	208	126	153	139	626
Keiskamma Hoek - - - - -	30	6	7	5	48
Fort Hare - - - - -	6	7	11	13	37
Fort Cox - - - - -	5	1	2	—	8
Fort White - - - - -	6	5	9	7	27
Fort Murray - - - - -	20	9	8	5	42
Fort Pato - - - - -	6	1	2	2	11
Fort Grey - - - - -	6	2	—	1	9
Tamacha Post - - - - -	8	2	1	2	13
Izelo Post - - - - -	5	1	3	2	11
Tyume Post - - - - -	3	1	2	1	7
Dohne Post - - - - -	13	5	4	5	27
Baillies Grave - - - - -	11	—	—	—	11
Kabousie Neck Post - - - -	12	—	—	—	12
Middle Drift - - - - -	4	—	—	—	4
MISSION STATIONS, viz.:					
Mount Coke - - - - -	8	4	7	3	22
Peelton - - - - -	3	4	1	2	10
Dohne - - - - -	3	4	4	5	16
Perrie - - - - -	1	3	—	—	4
Knapp's Hope - - - - -	3	1	—	—	4
Total - - - - -	361	182	214	192	949
East London - - - - -	68	25	20	16	124
Total - - - - -	424	207	234	208	1,073

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Resident Magistrate's Office,  
King William's Town, October 4, 1856.

## MEMORANDUM.

THE Census Return of the white population in British Kaffraria was taken at the close of the war, after which several traders and others, followers of the army, who were then residing here, went away; this will account for the decrease at King William's Town of 137 souls between the return of 1853 and the present one. There may be a discrepancy in the detailed numbers at the outposts, as shown in the return of 1853 and the numbers now there, but I think there are over 300 souls at the outposts, and in round numbers the population in British Kaffraria exceed 1,000 souls.

(Signed) RICHARD TAYLOR,  
Resident Magistrate.

Encl. 2 in No. 12.

Enclosure 2 in No. 12.

## MEMORANDUM.

## CENSUS of the Gaiika and Hlamhlie Tribes, 1848.

1. The Hlamhlie Census, as nearly as possible correct for the time, eight years ago, since which time they have much increased.

2. The Gaiika Census was not accurate; the tribe had not at that time returned after the war; it was therefore at that time much below the real number of the tribe; since that date they have much increased.

3. Every wife (undivorced and with husband living) has on an average at any given moment two children under age. Now, as at the said given moment many wives have borne none, or one only, and as many have children grown up and reckoned among the adults, the race is evidently prolific; and if to this is added, that every Kaffir marries, and that children become early of age,—males, say 16 to 18, and females from puberty, say from 13 to 15,—it is evident that the race is increasing by no means slowly.

4. The children at any given moment come very near to the adults.

	Kaffirs, 1848.	Crown Reserve, 1854.	Peddle Fingoes, 1853.
Adults - - -	100	100	100
Children - - -	93.5	87.4	81.2

N.B.—The adults in the Peddle Census include all above 16 (and probably girls under that age); considerations similar to those adduced in paragraph 1, together with this, that some of the adults are of the second generation back, lead to a similar conclusion.

In the Kaffir Census, deaths of the male adults during the war of 1846-7 may be thought to account for the high average of the Kaffir children. But amongst savages children suffer most from journeyings, and first from starvation; neither among them is production likely to be so frequent during war time. These, therefore, partially at least counterbalance the male adult deaths, and the Fingoe censuses cannot be said to be affected by this sort of error.

5. In the United States to 100 adult males there are 161 children. In Ireland, when the population was said to be increasing, but not rapidly, the proportion was 100 to 141; among the Kaffirs, in 1848, it was 100 to 224.7. Now, even if this be accounted as partly the result of war, and if the counterbalance noticed above be considered a very partial one, still, considering that the numbers of the children are lowered and those of the adults increased by the absorption of children into the ranks of the adults before their time, the proportion of children will still be high, unless a loss of men be allowed much greater than probability will allow us to assume.

Again, though the women in the Crown Reserve are fewer than usual (owing probably to its population being an emigrant one), the proportion in 1854 was 100 adult males to 179.9 children, and at Peddle (census 1853) it was 100 to 187.7. Lastly, at the Mission stations in British Kaffraria, partly included in Crown Reserve Census, where the females present the usual high proportion to the males, but where for some reason the children are few, the proportions are,—male adults, 100; children, under 147-148.9.

6. The apparent proportion of male to female births is nearly even.

	Hlamhlies, 1848.	Gaiikas, 1848.	C. Reserve, 1854.	Peddle.
Boys - - -	100	100	100	100
Girls - - -	95.1	92.0	89.3	100.3

(91 excluding orphans).

But the proportion of adult females greatly exceeds the adult males.

	Men.	Women.	Women less Maids.
Hlamhlies - - -	100	134.9	126.4
Gaiikas - - -	100	147.2	125.7
Crown Reserve - - -	100	100	—
Mission S. B. Kaffraria - - -	100	122.7	—
Peddle Fingoes - - -	100	130.6	117.7

# STATE OF THE KAFFIR TRIBES.

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This is to be accounted for partly by the early age at which girls become marriageable and are married. The absorption from the girls is quicker than from the boys; the proportion of girls is therefore lessened, and the proportion of adult females proportionately increased. As female children also, being saleable articles, are more looked after and better fed, there is perhaps less mortality among them. Allowing, then, that some of this preponderance of adult females is owing, as in civilized countries, to the greater average longevity of women (though this is not necessarily or always the case amongst savages), still we see that the females are born in due proportion to the males, and that at puberty there is a large excess. This promotes early marriages, allows both the polygamist and young man to marry, and prevents so great promiscuous intercourse as to impair the fertility of the female. Taken also with paragraph 3. it shows more clearly what increases there must be.

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N.B.—Ratio of inhabitants to kraals, Hlambe District, 1848.

Kraal.	Men.	Wife and Widows.	Males.	Boys.	Girls.	Total Souls.
1	374	369	0.32	444	422	17.42
		4.71		8.66		

There is no such difference between the Fingoes and Kaffirs as to prevent the conclusions from a census of the one being applied to the other; but I have used the Fingo census rather as testing and proving the accuracy of the other.

(Signed) JOHN MACLEAN,  
Chief Commissioner.

## CENSUS of the Grika District, 1848.

No.	Name.	Place of Abode.	Men.	Wives.	Un-married Females.	Children.		Widows.	Orphans.		No. of Souls.	Persons in the Colony.	Property.	
						Boys.	Girls.		Boys.	Girls.			Horses.	Cattle.
1	Sandhill -	Bumabill -	3,254	3,037	581	2,888	2,563	1,070	593	895	14,315	391	222	10,583
2	Tebe -	Tyunie -	339	847	348	1,012	879	281	270	191	4,867	237	302	4,558
3	Maccos -	Dine -	429	413	106	419	354	142	103	94	3,066	286	178	2,034
4	Betman -	Dine -	320	328	78	301	323	108	57	61	1,455	213	81	1,124
5	Tola -	Peuleni -	406	311	52	277	226	120	46	47	1,487	138	65	1,278
6	Souto -	Kalawa -	170	122	22	122	101	60	34	41	372	49	40	584
7	Taatsoe -	Buffalo River	356	320	73	365	287	141	83	109	1,717	55	109	1,880
		Total -	3,884	5,458	1,263	5,383	4,922	1,329	1,192	1,131	27,178	1,631	1,269	22,120

(Signed) JOHN MACLEAN,  
Chief Commissioner.

## CENSUS of the Hlambe District, 1848.

Location.	No. of Kraal.	No. of Men.	No. of Wives.	No. of Unmarried Females.	Children.		No. of Widows.	Orphans.		No. of Souls.	Property.	
					Boys.	Girls.		Boys.	Girls.		Horses.	Cattle.
Umhalas -	870	2,053	2,089	129	2,243	2,104	214	275	336	10,019	164	8,344
Pato and Cobus Conger	381	1,348	1,332	87	1,958	1,869	408	181	248	8,287	140	7,358
Tois -	387	1,600	1,668	63	1,682	1,530	434	302	228	7,481	457	11,512
Siwanis -	160	891	350	83	642	579	181	64	81	2,773	87	3,598
Seyoris -	122	487	476	41	445	436	141	22	39	2,181	67	1,833
Rock -	152	745	695	178	669	580	223	132	110	3,562	258	3,479
Totals -	47	191	183	22	180	181	52	27	27	677	14	640
Total -	2,018	7,522	7,480	645	7,288	7,431	2,057	381	1,095	35,178	1,187	35,379

The census of 1848 was as accurately taken as circumstances permitted so soon after hostilities; but the following is, I think, a more correct estimate, viz :

Hlambe and Grika Tribes -	-	-	70,000
Tamhookie -	-	-	70,000
Krellis or Amaguleks Tribe -	-	-	70,000

210,000

Number of Warriors estimated at - 35,000

(Signed) JOHN MACLEAN,  
Chief Commissioner.

CAFE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

The H'Lambie census as nearly as possible correct for the time, eight years ago, since which time they have much increased.

The Gaika census was not accurate, the tribe had not at that time returned after the war, it was therefore at the time much below the real number of the tribe. Since that date they have much increased.

Fort Murray, October 4, 1856.

(Signed) JOHN MACLEAN,  
Chief Commissioner.

Resident Magistrate's Office, King William's Town,  
March 1, 1856.

MEMORANDUM.

No Erven have been applied for at King William's Town, since the date of his Excellency the Governor's proclamation, viz., 7th December 1855.

(Signed) RICHARD TAYLOR,  
Resident Magistrate.

BRITISH KAFFRARIA.

STATEMENT showing the Number of Erven held under Quitrent at the respective Outposts.

Station.	Occupant.	No. of Erf.	Dimensions.	Amount of Quitrent per Acre.	Remarks.
			Feet.	£ s. d.	
LELL.	Henry Wild -	1	150 x 300	0 10 0	Granted provisionally under authority of his Excellency Sir George Cathcart in Schedule No. 55, dated 21st May 1853.
	William Wild -	2	150 x 300	0 10 0	
	Abram Wild -	3	150 x 300	0 10 0	
	Henry Wild -	4	150 x 300	0 10 0	
	James Flanagan -	5	150 x 300	0 10 0	
	James Robinson -	6	150 x 300	0 10 0	
	Henry Willard -	7	150 x 300	0 10 0	
	Coenraad Beesinge -	8	150 x 300	0 10 0	
	Robert Goodwin -	9	150 x 300	0 10 0	
	William Moffatt -	10	150 x 300	0 10 0	
	James Robinson -	11	150 x 300	0 10 0	
	Henry Millard -	12	150 x 300	0 10 0	
	Charles Evans -	13	150 x 300	0 10 0	
	Reuben Linford -	14	150 x 300	0 10 0	
	Richard Gulston -	15	150 x 300	0 10 0	
	James Robinson -	16	150 x 300	0 10 0	
	James Robinson -	17	150 x 300	0 10 0	
	William Moffatt -	18	150 x 300	0 10 0	
	-	19	150 x 300	0 10 0	
FORT MURRAY.	James Hitchins* -	-	-	-	*Military Canteen.
	William James† -	-	-	-	†Commissariat Contractor.
	J. D. Wilson -	1	75 x 150	1 0 0	These erven were put upon the same footing as at King William's Town, and provisional titles granted from 1st January 1854, under authority of Schedule No. 97, dated 26th November 1853.
	Francis Tatler -	2	75 x 150	1 0 0	
	J. D. Wilson -	3	75 x 150	1 0 0	
	Robert Pirri -	4	75 x 150	1 0 0	
	John Webster -	5	75 x 150	1 0 0	
	Robert Pirri -	6	75 x 150	1 0 0	
	John Webster -	7	75 x 150	1 0 0	
	Thomas Farmer -	8	75 x 150	1 0 0	
	D. A. C. Gen. Castray -	1	150 x 300	0 5 0	Not occupied.
	W. D. Fynn -	2	150 x 300	0 5 0	
	W. Mills -	3	150 x 300	0 5 0	
	Robert Badham -	4	150 x 300	0 5 0	
	Robert Haughton -	5	150 x 300	0 5 0	
	William Brown -	6	150 x 300	0 5 0	
	George Moxley -	7	150 x 300	0 5 0	
	Henry Clayton -	8	150 x 300	0 5 0	
	Samuel Pyler -	9	150 x 300	0 5 0	
	D. A. C. Gen. Castray -	10	150 x 300	0 5 0	
	-	11	150 x 300	-	
	Barrack Serjeant Best -	12	150 x 300	0 5 0	
	Robert Bende -	13	150 x 300	0 5 0	
	-	14	150 x 300	-	Not occupied.

Station.	Occupant.	No. of Erf.	Dimensions.	Amount of Quitrent per Annum.	Remarks.
			Feet.	£ s. d.	
KELAKAMBA HILLS.*	D. A. C. Gen. Castray	15	150 x 300	0 5 0	
	W. D. Fyno	16	150 x 300	0 5 0	
	D. Mills	17	150 x 300	0 5 0	
	Robert Badham	18	150 x 300	0 5 0	
	R. Haughton	19	150 x 300	0 5 0	
	William Brown	20	150 x 300	0 5 0	
	George Mousley	21	150 x 300	0 5 0	
		22	150 x 300	—	Not occupied.
	Samuel Peyer	23	150 x 300	0 5 0	
	D. A. C. Gen. Castray	24	150 x 300	0 5 0	
		25	150 x 300	—	Not occupied.
	Barrack Sergeant Best	26	150 x 300	0 5 0	
	Robert Reade	27	150 x 300	0 5 0	
		28	150 x 300	—	Not occupied.
		29	150 x 300	—	Soldiers' Gardens.
		30	150 x 300	—	
		31	150 x 300	—	
		32	150 x 300	—	
	C. E. Williams	33	150 x 300	0 5 0	
	Ditto	34	150 x 300	0 5 0	
	Thomas Duffin	35	150 x 300	0 5 0	
	Wm. Simpson	36	150 x 300	0 5 0	
		37	150 x 300	—	Not occupied.
		38	150 x 300	—	Not occupied.
		39	150 x 300	—	Not occupied.
	John Smith	40	150 x 300	0 5 0	
	James Cole	41	150 x 300	0 5 0	
		42	150 x 300	—	Not occupied.
		43	150 x 300	—	Not occupied.
	George Thompson	44	150 x 300	0 5 0	
		45	150 x 300	—	Not occupied.
		46	150 x 300	—	
		47	150 x 300	—	
	John Nettletoe	48	150 x 300	0 5 0	
DOONET†		1	—	—	Not occupied.
	John Gillam	2	—	—	
	John Gillam	3	—	—	
	John Gillam	4	—	—	
	John Gillam	5	60 x 100	—	
		6	—	—	Not occupied.
		7	—	—	Not occupied.

\* The Kelakamba village established under authority of Government Notice of 12th February 1853, Schedule No. 49, of 26th April 1853, authorizes 10 acres of land to each tenant, to be let for a period of three years at 5s. per acre, per annum, and liable to water rate if under irrigation.

† No definite instructions given respecting this post, consequently no rate of quitrent fixed.

King William's Town, March 1856.

(Signed)

JOHN MACLEAN,

Chief Commissioner.

No. 13.

No. 13.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 104.)

Cape Town, October 18, 1856.

SIR,

(Received January 17, 1857.)

In a Despatch\* which I this day addressed to you I alluded to the large hordes of still barbarous tribes, who have been collected within the colony, on its immediate frontier, and who have been massed together in locations by themselves, where they have been left under little or no control; and I called attention to the great difficulty which this cause created in dealing with the affairs of British Kaffraria, and of the frontier of this colony.

2. I have now the honour to transmit copies of two letters, which have just reached me, which illustrate the nature of the difficulty I was alluding to.

G 2

\* Page 36.

Enclosure No. 1.

Mr. Giddy to Mr. Shepstone, Sept. 22, 1856.

Enclosure No. 2.

Mr. Shepstone to Secretary to Lieut. Governor, Sept. 24, 1856.

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3. From these letters it will be found that in the two locations to which they relate, on our immediate borders, more than 7,000 Fingoes are massed together, and that the ordinary officers of Government are quite insufficient for the management of these people.

4. The same circumstances as are disclosed in these letters are repeated over and over again, in slightly varied forms, in all the Fingoe locations. Gradually, provision is being made for the management of these people, and for promoting their advancement in the arts of civilized life, and for giving titles to their lands to them. But the very number of the Fingoes, the dense masses in which they have been heaped together, and the hurried manner in which this was done, will necessarily render the final and complete adjustment of the questions which have arisen from this state of things a very long and laborious task.

I have, &amp;c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

Encl. 1 in No. 13.

Enclosure 1. in No. 13.

SIR,

Queen's Town, September 22, 1856.

IN accordance with your instructions under date the 21st July last, directing me to collect the quitrents from the natives residing in the Ockraal and Kamastone locations, I have the honour to state that I have been twice to Kamastone and once to the Ockraal on this duty; that I have collected 202L 10s., and been promised payment within a short date of some 50L.

I consider it my duty to report to you that since my visit in December last to these locations, collecting statistics for the annual Blue Book, I observe a very marked difference in the natives; they express themselves much dissatisfied with the treatment they have received from Government, and an idea prevails that Government feels no interest in them, much strengthened in their minds from the fact that there is no person on the spot to look to the interests of the original proprietors, and keep the location in order.

A great number of strangers are from time to time settling in the location, much to the annoyance of the original holders of the ground, several of whom wish to leave the location on this account. Others of the old inhabitants expressed an earnest desire to receive titles to their lands, and wished to know whether there was any probability of titles being issued to them, that they might be enabled to keep out all intruders and make improvements. Many of them I found fully understand the nature of titles to land, and are very anxious to obtain them.

There are some 7000 souls or more in these locations (which adjoin) without any overseer whatever. Several petty fights have lately taken place, and the subject of the Government of these locations is becoming a matter of great anxiety to all the neighbouring farmers as well as to the well-disposed of the old residents. The appointment of a superintendent would be most pleasing to the farmers, who now have to ride forty miles to prefer a complaint against any of these people. More quitrent has been received this year than in any other year since last war, but the arrears even this year if collected would more than pay a superintendent's salary.

Trusting that you will not think that I am overstepping my duties in penning these lines,

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) R. W. H. GIDDY,  
Clerk to Chief Commissioner.

W. G. B. Shepstone, Esq.,  
Civil Commissioner, Queen's Town.

Encl. 2 in No. 13.

Enclosure 2 in No. 13.

SIR,

Civil Commissioner's Office, Queen's Town,  
September 24, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to forward for the information of his Honour the Lieutenant Governor a copy of a report from Mr. Giddy on the present state of the Fingoe locations in this division, and I regret to say that the state of these Fingoes as represented by that officer is but too true, and Mr. Giddy's remarks on the appointment of a superintendent, with their feelings on the non-appointment of such an officer, are quite correct.

The inconvenience felt by these people and by Europeans from the want of such an officer can only be conceived by those who have been placed in similar circumstances.

I have more than once brought this matter to the notice of Government, but I have perhaps never mentioned that my time is often occupied with them, to late hours of an evening, on matters which might easily have been settled by a superintendent amongst



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them, but upon which these people have had to travel thirty miles and more to a place where they can obtain little or no accommodation.

A superintendent would also greatly check the interlopers from coming in, as he would be on the spot, and see and hear for himself; whereas now the chiefs encourage it, and the people who suffer are afraid to report the circumstances, to do which they would have to travel a great distance.

Mr. Giddy has, I think, shown that no extra expense would accrue to the Government by appointing an overseer. I have long felt the responsibility of a mass of natives left as these people are under no direct surveillance, and I sincerely trust that it may soon meet with some consideration with a view of remedying the evil.

If the Government cannot at present do anything further than to authorize Mr. Giddy proceeding at stated periods through these locations and settle all matters which otherwise cause great inconvenience, trouble, and annoyance amongst themselves, it would be a public benefit to the division, and the expense very inconsiderable compared with the satisfaction it would secure.

R. Sonthey, Esq.,  
Secretary to Government,  
King William's Town.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) G. W. B. SHEPSTONE,  
Civil Commissioner.

No. 14.

No. 14.

COPY of a DESPATCH from GOVERNOR SIR GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 105.)

Cape Town, October 20, 1856.

(Received Jan. 17, 1857.)

(Answered No. 152, Jan. 26, 1857, page 99.)

SIR,

ADVERTING to my despatch, No. 94\*, of 27th September, in which I detailed the attempts which had been made by Krelî the paramount chief of the Kaffir tribes, acting, as I believed, in conjunction with Moshesh, to excite the tribes in British Kaffraria to measures which must have resulted in war, I have now the honour to enclose a memorandum from the Chief Commissioner of British Kaffraria, containing the substance of Krelî's answer to the message which I sent him. \* Page 25.

2. Krelî gives his answer by an untruth: he denies having sent any messengers to Sandili and Umhala. At the very time this falsehood was stated in his behalf his two messengers were at Umhala's, waiting for the replies of the Gaika and T'Slambi chiefs. He then goes on to say, in substance, that if a force goes into his country to kill him, he will not fight, as he does not covet war, and that he now places himself under the Government, having done no wrong. I hope the real meaning of this is, that his plans having been discovered he intends to abandon them, and will work with the Government for good.

3. I have further the honour to transmit a letter from the magistrate who is resident with the Chief Toise, from which it will be seen that, upon Krelî's message being delivered to his tribe, it simply convinced them of the falsity of the delusions which Krelî had attempted to pass off on them; both men and women of that tribe have now commenced to cultivate their land. The Chief Commissioner informs me, that from all he can learn, he believes this feeling of derision for the prophet is also spreading through Umhala's location, and that as the sowing season continues until the beginning of December, he has every reason to hope, that in the course of the present month cultivation will become general throughout British Kaffraria. I have indeed very little doubt now that, it having been found by those who desired war, that so large a portion of the chiefs and people of British Kaffraria are faithful to us, they will abandon views of hostility which they are unable to carry out.

Enclosure No. 2.  
Letter from Mr. Ayliff, Oct. 11, 1856.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) G. GREY.

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HOPE

Enclosure 1 in No. 14.

Encl. 1 in No. 14.

Fort Murray, October 12, 1856.

"Xosani," a counsellor of the chief Krelli, appears before the Chief Commissioner, (Mr. Crouch being present at Krelli's request,) and states:—

"I have been sent by Krelli with the following message to Maclean:—  
"That about eleven days ago two men arrived at Krelli's great place; one a son of 'Umkutukana,' of the Gaika tribe, the other I do not know his name; stating, that they had been sent by Brownlee with a paper, which they threw on the ground before Krelli. Krelli asked what the paper contained? The men replied, 'Although we know what it contains; you must find some one to read it for you; we will not trouble ourselves about it.' Krelli asked the messengers several times to tell him what was in the paper, but they persisted in refusing, and said they would return home; and as they were moving off Krelli held one of the men by the arm, and said he was not leave in that way, but tell him the words in the paper. They would not listen, and went away. When 'Krelli' took the paper to the missionary, Mr. Waters, who told Krelli that it contained the following, viz:—

"'This is a message from the great chief the Governor, who says you must not kill your cattle, but leave it off. I, the Governor, have cattle, and you, Krelli, have cattle; you and your people will starve, and then you will take my cattle. I am warning you of this, because I will bring trouble upon you at once, before you have finished your cattle. That you are killing your cattle is proved by your having sent messages to Sandilli and Umhala to kill their cattle; therefore, as you are the head of all the Kafirs, I will hold you, Krelli, responsible.'

"The above is the word which Krelli states was read to him by the missionary from the paper brought by Brownlee's men; Krelli has therefore sent me to Maclean, to ascertain from his mouth whether the above are really the words of the Governor, and why the Governor says he will at once bring trouble upon Krelli? What wrong has he done? He denies having sent any messengers to Sandilli or Umhala, and would like to be told the names of the men he is stated as having sent. If the Governor comes to kill Krelli, Krelli will not fight, as he does not want war. Although the Government destroy him and his people, he will place himself under the Government, as he has done no wrong."

Chief Commissioner:—"The Governor's message to Krelli was written in a friendly spirit, giving him advice, and pointing out to him the lamentable consequences likely to arise from his messages to Sandilli and Umhala; and which had also been conveyed to all the other chiefs."

"You, as one of Krelli's great counsellors, and a special messenger, deny that Krelli sent any such message to Umhala or other chiefs."

Note.—The Chief Commissioner informed Krelli's messenger that Umhala had made a special report to his magistrate of the arrival of two messengers from Krelli; and also communicated what passed at Umhala's great meeting, at which Krelli's messengers were present, one named "Sixana," as reported by Major Gawler in his letter of the 1st instant, and likewise that Sandilli had met Krelli's two messengers at the "Umgrali," on their way to Umhala and Puto. Also that reports had been received from Pato, Siwani, Toise, and other chiefs, acquainting the Government with the arrival of special messengers from Umhala, conveying Krelli's mandate to kill their cattle and destroy their corn. The Commissioner here remarked, "What other proof do you require of the truth of the Governor's word? Krelli's messengers are still at Umhala's, awaiting the replies of the Gaika and Hlambie chiefs; go and see them, and satisfy yourself."

"I have no word for Krelli, except that of explaining the Governor's letter to Krelli, which I will read to you," (High Commissioner's letter of the 27th ult. was now read to Xosani,) "and I am ready to explain anything further that may be required to confirm the spirit and meaning of the Governor's word, that of advice to Krelli and his people."

Xosani:—"I thank Maclean for explaining the Governor's word; I perfectly understand it; it is giving Krelli advice, and pointing out the consequences. Krelli wishes Crouch to be present when I give him the word."

Chief Commissioner:—"I will give it in writing to Mr. Crouch, so that there can be no mistake."

Witness,  
GEORGE M. SHERSTONE,  
Interpreter to Chief Commissioner.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOHN MACLEAN,  
Chief Commissioner.

Encl. 2 in No. 14.

Enclosure 2 in No. 14.

SIR,

King William's Town, October 11, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to state that the Chief Toise came to me yesterday to report that three men had been sent to him by Umhala to inform him that messengers had been sent to him by Krelli to urge him to kill his cattle and destroy his corn. Toise stated that he had assembled the chief men of his tribe to hear Umhala's word, but that on interrogating Umhala's men, it was found that they had no word, and that on questioning them

concerning the predictions of "Umhlakaza," and the reported new appearances, they could give no clear or decisive answer on either.

The result has been that instead of strengthening the delusion, this visit has tended to destroy it; as I found this morning on visiting the location, that where on my last visit no sign of cultivation was to be seen, now, both men and women were busily employed digging up the soil and putting in seed, and I trust that by continued persuasion, and the judicious administration of assistance in the shape of seed and spades, soon to see the majority of the gardens in this location cultivated. I am unable to speak more confidently of this, as I found this morning along one river no single garden was tilled, though preparations were made for a forge; the operations of this, however, Toise in my presence gave orders to be suspended until the gardens were cultivated.

Toise seems to be acting fairly, and continues to assist cordially in carrying into effect the new arrangements, of which I hope very soon to be able to report the machinery in full operation. So far as it is yet completed, it is working very satisfactorily; the men employed seem to feel their responsibility, they work willingly, and quite enter into the spirit of the scheme; and this morning five horses and three head of cattle found straying by night were brought to me by the party in charge of the Fort White Road: they were restored to their owner without fee; but I would submit that, for the present, all cattle and horses found straying by night should be considered as trespassing, and be impounded accordingly.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOHN ATLIFF,  
Interpreter to High Commissioner.

Colonel Maclean,  
Chief Commissioner, Kaffraria.

No. 15.

No. 15.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 106.)

Cape Town, October 23, 1856.

(Received Jan. 17, 1857.)

SIR,

(Answered No. 151, January 25, 1857, page 99.)

\* Page 25.

In my Despatch No. 94,\* of 27th September last, in which I reported generally upon the state of our relations with the tribes and independent chiefs in British Kaffraria or beyond our frontier, I enclosed the copy of a letter which I had addressed to the Chief Moshesh upon the subject of the reports which had reached me on the subject of his communications with Krelé regarding proceedings which were likely ultimately to be the cause of forcing us into a war.

Enclosure No. 1.

2. I have now the honour to enclose a copy of the reply which I have this day received from Moshesh. He states, that for more than three years no friendly relations have existed between Krelé and himself, as he regards that chief as his enemy, and Moshesh assures me of the sincerity of his friendship and of his fidelity.

3. The French clergyman, a missionary with Moshesh, who wrote this letter for the chief, adds, "But, if my testimony could be of any use, I should not hesitate to say that Moshesh appeared to me to be perfectly sincere in the answer which he has given to your Excellency."

4. I regret to say that to-day's post has brought me from various quarters information opposed to the statements of Moshesh.

Enclosure No. 2.  
15th October 1856.

1stly. A letter has reached me from a gentleman residing at Graham's Town, dated the 15th instant, in which he tells me, that on the 14th instant he had received information from Krelé's country, to the effect, amongst other things, that "Messengers had just arrived from the Basutos, but had not then seen "Krelé."

2dly. Mr. Warner, our agent with the Tambookie tribes, reports on the 7th of October, to the Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor, that he believes there are now (on the 7th instant) messengers from Krelé at Moshesh's, they having been sent at the same time as those to Umhala and Sandilli. Mr. Warner could not ascertain what messages they carried, further than that Umhlakaza was the subject of them.

5. Mr. Warner also reports, that messengers from Morosi (a petty chief of Moshesh) were at Krelé's a short time back to hear the news about Umhlakaza.

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Enclosure No. 3.

3dly. I to-day received from the Chief Commissioner of British Kaffria the enclosed information furnished to him on the 15th instant by a Kaffir chief, from which it will be found that in Krel's country a report is circulated that people who have risen from the dead have been sent with messages to Moshesh and Faku.

4thly. I have to-day received a letter from the Chief Commissioner of British Kaffria, in which he tells me that he is happy to acquaint me that Anta, Oba, Kona, Namba, Kana, Siwani, Jan Tzatzoe, and Toise are all engaged in cultivating their gardens, and likewise several of their followers, although Sandilli, Macomo, Umhala, and Pato are taking a different course, which is, he thinks, tolerable proof that they are agents acting under Krel to support the Moshesh policy in the event of his coming into collision with the Orange Free State. Colonel Maclean adds, "I am satisfied that this is the true political bearing of the case, and that the common people, worked upon by superstition, are afraid to disobey the mandate of the prophet. In support of this assertion, I may instance the Fingoes, and also the police, and most of the natives under our immediate control, have taken no heed of the prophet, or of the chiefs who are supporting him."

5. On this subject I have only further to add, that all the information I have had before me for several months has quite satisfied me that Moshesh is implicated in these proceedings, although to what extent I cannot tell. But I have no doubt that during the next few weeks information will be obtained which will throw much light upon this subject. In the meantime I am still of opinion that we shall be able to prevent any serious disturbances from breaking out.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) G. GREY.

Enclosure 1 in No. 15.

Encl. 1 in No. 15.

Thaba Bosigo, 6th Octobre 1856.

A son Excellence Monsieur le Gouverneur de la Colonie du Cap de Bonne Espérance.  
MONSIEUR LE GOUVERNEUR,

VOTRE lettre du 27 Septembre m'a été remise hier, Dimanche, à l'heure de la prière, et j'en ai pris connaissance après la sortie du service religieux de l'après-midi.

Le contenu de votre lettre m'a fait plaisir en ce sens, qu'il me montre que vous m'aimez et que vous me voulez du bien. Car, quoique je ne suis qu'un pêcheur, je n'oublie pas que vous voulez doter mon pays d'une école d'industrie, et je vous en suis reconnaissant.

Cependant, j'ai été affligé à la pensée que votre Excellence a pu croire que je nourrissais dans mon cœur des sentiments hostiles à son gouvernement, et que, parlant d'une manière, j'agissais d'une autre.

Mais je prie votre Excellence de ne pas ajouter foi aux rapports faits par des hommes qui peuvent abuser de mon nom en faisant courir de faux bruits. Ma conduite envers le Gouvernement Anglais n'a jamais varié; ce que je suis, je le dois à l'évangile et au Gouvernement de la Reine; et alors même que vous cesseriez d'avoir confiance en moi et que vous me rejetteriez (latla), ce serait sans cause, et mes sentiments ne changeraient pas à votre égard.

Je prie donc votre Excellence de ne pas compliquer ma position de chef, en me mêlant à une affaire qui ne me concerne point. Je me trouve déjà suffisamment dans l'embarras, ayant à m'occuper et à tâcher d'amener à bonne fin la question qui peut actuellement entre l'état libre et moi. Krel est un noir comme moi, mais il est mon ennemi; dans une guerre il a tué l'un de mes frères, et je n'ai pas eu de relations avec lui depuis plus de trois ans. Je suis donc tout-à-fait étranger à ce qui se passe chez lui, et mon missionnaire est l'un de ceux qui m'ont informé (d'après un journal du Cap) qu'un faux prophète avait ordonné qu'on tuât tout le bétail, assurant qu'il ressusciterait ensuite.

Je prie donc votre Excellence de croire à la sincérité de mon amitié et de ma fidélité, et je vous autorise à démentir en mon nom tout espèce de rapport qui aurait pour but de me faire considérer comme le moteur des troubles qui agitent la Kaffria.

Moi, Moshesh, je vous envoie mes salutations les plus cordiales.

Telles sont, Monsieur le Gouverneur, les paroles que j'ai recueillies de la bouche même de Moshesh, et celles qu'il m'a données par écrit et que je n'ai fait que traduire. Je n'ai aucun intérêt particulier à m'occuper de telles affaires, qui sont en dehors de mon ministère. Mais si mon témoignage pouvait être de quelque utilité, je n'hésiterais pas

# STATE OF THE KAFFIR TRIBES.

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à dire quo Moshesh m'a paru parfaitement sincère dans la réponse qu'il vient de faire à votre Excellence. CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Veuillez, Monsieur le Gouverneur, croire au dévouement de votre très-humble serviteur.  
(Signed) T. JOUSSE, V.D.M.

Enclosure 2 in No. 15.

Encl. 2 in No. 15.

SINCE writing yesterday, I have received the following information from Krel's country:—

Fuhu, a Tembu chief of considerable note and great influence, has been down by Krel's invitation to see the prophet (Umhlakaza). Krel had promised to show him the people on the water that had risen (kuka) from the dead. That "Fuhu" had returned home with the "news" that there was to be peace amongst the people, that the cattle were all to be killed, and then the white things (English) would disappear; that all black people were one and must live in peace.

Joe, the Tembu chief, had also sent down to Krel to ask for reconciliation. Krel sent word "that the river was not broad, it might be crossed without difficulty; they were to tell Joe that they had seen, and that he was to come and see for himself, and witness that Hintza and Gaika with many other people had arisen (kuka), but were not yet visible, "because all the cattle had not yet been killed; that the prophet had not yet given the word (impi) command to go out, because the people were not yet clean; that the Tembus would not escape the general destruction if they did not obey the prophet; to the present they had not slaughtered."

Nxota (gotoo), a petty chief of Krel's tribe and a doctor, was to be sent for to join Umhlakaza; being a chief his word would have greater weight with the people.

Buka and his son Malpas are strongly opposed to the war party, and are consequently giving Krel much trouble.

Messengers had just arrived from the Basutos, but had not then seen Krel.

Knowing the Kaffir well, I consider the "news" important, as showing Krel's desire to merge all previous differences in order to combine the whole Kaffir nation against us.

Enclosure 3 in No. 15.

Encl. 3 in No. 15.

Fort Murray, October 15, 1856.

INFORMATION this day communicated to the Chief Commissioner by the Chief  
Jan Tzatzoe.

I have come to acquaint Maclean that a day or two ago, when in King William's Town, I met a man named Tyulu, of Mapassa's tribe, residing on the east side of the Kei in Krel's country, who told me he had come to ask for presents from his friends residing in my location, and on asking him for the news, he told me the following, viz.

That it is reported across the Kei that Adam our first father has come upon the earth, accompanied by God and two sons of God, together with a numerous new people, who are at present invisible to all except such as visit the prophet Umhlakaza for the purpose of seeing them. That Adam has lately proceeded to Moshesh for the purpose of requesting Moshesh to direct his people to destroy all their cattle and corn, and not to cultivate; that similar messages have been taken by the two sons of God,—one to Krel, by the eldest, named Sipungupungu (reckless), the other to Faku, by the second son, Napaka le (everlasting); that Satan is likewise let loose in the country to take to himself all such who do not act up to the mandate to kill cattle, &c.

(Signed) JAN TZATZOE,  
Chief of the Amantindo.

Sub-Enclosure in Enclosure 3 in No. 15.

Sub-Encl. in  
Encl. 3 in No. 15.

Jan Tzatzoe's Kraal, October 13, 1856.

INFORMATION this day communicated to me by Jan Tzatzoe.

The day before yesterday a man named Tyulu, of Mapassa's tribe residing beyond the Kei, visited my kraal, and gave me what follows as news, viz.: That Adam has arisen, and been sent with a message to Moshesh by the new people, to say that he should kill all his cattle, cast away all bewitching matter, and destroy his corn.

Napakado (everlasting) and Usipungepungu (reckless) have also been sent with messages, the former to Faku and the latter to Krel; also that Satan has been let loose in the country to watch those people who do not obey the orders of the new people and the prophet.

(Signed) JAN TZATZOE.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

No. 16.

No. 16.

COPY of a DESPATCH from GOVERNOR Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 107.)

Cape Town, October 24, 1856.

(Received January 17, 1857.)

(Answered No. 133, January 28, 1857, page 100.)

Sir,

My attention has been directed to a paragraph in one of the local papers which may, if uncontradicted, perhaps, cause some anxiety to Her Majesty's Government. It relates to a recent interview which I had with the Chief Sandilli, which it thus describes:

"Sandilli is reported to have behaved in a most insolent manner, desiring to know why his Excellency pardoned the rebel Hottentots, and refused to restore Seyolo to his tribe, who never was a subject, and owed no allegiance to Her Majesty's Government; why the Amatolas were not given back to the Gaikas; and not being satisfied with the replies of Sir George, he turned upon his heels and walked into the bush."

2. How such inventions could have been put into circulation I cannot imagine. No one was present with me but three officers of the Government, one of whom acted as interpreter. Two of these gentlemen being still present with me when these reports reached me, they have drawn up a minute of what passed on the occasion alluded to, from which you will find that nothing could have been better or more satisfactory than the conduct of the Kaffirs, and that it is evident whoever did put into circulation the reports which have appeared in some of the newspapers, must have been amusing himself by supplying an imaginary account of that regarding which he really had no information whatever.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure.  
Statements of  
Capt. Travers and  
Mr. Southey.

Encl in No. 16.

Enclosure in No. 16.

King William's Town, October 7, 1856.

ON the 16th ultimo, his Excellency the Governor, accompanied by Mr. Brownlee, the Gaika Commissioner, Mr. Southey, and Captain Travers, and otherwise unattended, proceeded from the Dohne by way of the knals of Xoxo and Fynn to Sandilli's, visiting several other knals on his way, a distance through the Gaika country of from 20 to 25 miles.

On arriving at Sandilli's knal, where a very large number of the Gaika tribe had assembled to meet his Excellency, a conference was held. The topics touched upon by his Excellency were,—

1st. The killing of cattle.

2d. The cultivating of lands.

3d. The arrangement for securing greater protection of property, by the introduction of the system of paid headmen in various localities.

4th. The introduction of special magistrates.

To all of which Sandilli listened with great attention; his manner throughout was most respectful, and he entirely concurred in his Excellency's views upon each topic, excepting that of special magistrates, in respect of which he urged, that one magistrate was enough for the Gaika tribe, and that he wished all to be under Mr. Brownlee; that by appointing separate magistrates to each petty chief the tribe would become divided and broken up, and his own importance as paramount chief would become much reduced. To this his Excellency replied, that this point should receive his consideration. In the course of conversation Sandilli inquired what had become of Seyolo, and appeared satisfied and amused with his Excellency's reply.

No allusion was made to the pardoning of the rebel hottentots, or to the Amatolas being given back to the Gaikas. The interview lasted about two hours, and concluded in a very satisfactory manner. The Kaffirs present were attentive and respectful in their demeanour.

On his Excellency's departure, Sandilli and Xoxo accompanied him to St John's Mission Station on horseback, unattended by any of his people, and thence some miles on his way back to the Dohne; then leaving in a most friendly and proper manner, and apparently well satisfied with the result of the day's conference and proceedings.

The foregoing is a correct statement of all that took place on the occasion of his Excellency's visit. CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) FRED. J. TRAVERS,  
Captain R. A.  
The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c. (Signed) R. SOUTHEY,  
Secretary to the Lieutenant-Governor.

## No. 17.

No. 17.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 111.)

Cape Town, November 1, 1856.

Received January 17, 1857.

SIR,

(Answered No. 167, March 5, 1857, p. 100.)

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 89., of the 10th of August, upon the subject of the conventions at present existing with the recently established Orange Free State, and the Trans-Vaal Republic. From the terms of that Despatch I gather that you thought that I desired that a treaty should be at once concluded with some native chief. I had, however, no wish or thought of the kind. I beg, therefore, for your information, to state the facts of this case.

2. Upon the 17th day of January 1852 a convention\* was concluded with a deputation from the inhabitants of the country to the north of the Vaal River by the Commissioners appointed by the British Government, which was approved by Proclamation by the High Commissioner on the 15th April 1852, and by Her Majesty's Government, as stated in Sir J. Pakington's Despatch, No. 66.,† of the 24th of June 1852.

3. In this convention the following two articles occur:—

"Her Majesty's Assistant Commissioners hereby disclaim all alliances whatever and with whomsoever of the coloured nations north of the Vaal River."

"It is agreed that no objection shall be made by any British authority against the emigrant Boers purchasing their supplies of ammunition in any of the British colonies and possessions in South Africa, it being understood that all trade in ammunition with the native tribes is prohibited, both by the British Government and the emigrant farmers on both sides of the Vaal River."

4. By the first of these articles it has hitherto been considered that Great Britain was bound to form no alliances with native tribes to the north of the Vaal River.

5. It is clear that Great Britain is by the second of the foregoing articles to permit no trade in ammunition with the native tribes living either to the north or south of the Vaal River. This question of permitting supplies of ammunition to reach the native tribes did not therefore require to be reconsidered when a convention was entered into with the Orange Free State. It was apparently settled alike for the native tribes to the north and south of the Vaal River, and has been regarded as being so settled.

Upon the 23d February 1854 a convention‡ was entered into with the inhabitants of the Orange Free State, two articles of which were as follows:—

6. "The British Government has no alliance whatever with any native chiefs or tribes to the northward of the Orange River, with the exception of the Griqua Chief, Kaptyn Adam Kok; and Her Majesty's Government has no wish or intention to enter hereafter into any treaties which may be injurious or prejudicial to the interests of the Orange River government, and the Orange River government shall have freedom to purchase their supplies of

\* Vide page 36 of Correspondence relative to the Orange River Territory, presented by Command, 31st May 1853.

† Vide page 114 of same papers.

‡ Vide Appendix, page 107.

"ammunition in any British colony or possession in South Africa, subject to the laws provided for the regulation of the sale and transit of ammunition in such British colonies and possessions."

7. The general impression produced as to the joint effect of these two conventions is, that the British Government is pledged, under any circumstances, and for whatever objects they may be used, to permit the inhabitants of the two republics to procure supplies of arms and ammunition; and that under no circumstances, to preserve life, honour, property, whatever may be at stake, is it to permit the native chiefs or tribes to obtain supplies of ammunition; and that the British Government is not to enter into treaties with any native chiefs or tribes which may be injurious to the interests of the Orange Free State.

8. At the same time an impression prevails upon the minds of many of the chiefs and native tribes, that some of the inhabitants of the republics are bent upon the ultimate total extermination of the native races; and that Great Britain, by the conventions she has entered into, undertakes indirectly to aid in bringing this event about, and has in point of fact abandoned the coloured races to their fate. From this cause, in my belief, has sprung the present formidable combination amongst the native tribes, which is of a nature and extent hitherto unknown in this country, and the issue of which is yet doubtful.

9. If these conventions are not rightly understood, I shall gladly at once correct the erroneous impression which exists; but, as they are at present understood, our position in reference to them is one of difficulty, and lessens our influence in South Africa, and increases our difficulties. For instance, in the struggle likely shortly to take place between Moshoesh and the Free State, he requests that we will pledge ourselves to a perfect neutrality, which he promises on his own part also to observe; but we cannot really be neutrals, whilst we are bound by convention to prevent his obtaining munitions of war and to permit his enemies to obtain all that they require. Again, in the expeditions which private persons have undoubtedly undertaken to capture children for the purposes of a species of slavery, we are bound by a convention to prevent the unfortunate coloured races who are thus treated from acquiring the means of defending their own lives and of saving their children, and to allow their captors to obtain the means of killing the parents and of taking the children into captivity.

10. What I meant regarding all this was, that if we assume so great a responsibility as to arm some nations and disarm others, that we ought, in placing such vast powers in the hands of the newly-formed republics, at least to exercise some control over their actions, and to say, we give you these powers so long as we are satisfied you use them well and wisely, but we cannot incur the fearful responsibility of indirectly aiding in actions which we cannot approve, and which we regard as crimes. Either you must show that as a government you have strength to restrain your own people from acting in this manner, or we cannot treat with you as a government, and we must anew determine how we must act in reference to you. I believe that by pursuing a course of this kind we should really assist weak governments in their efforts to have right done, and that we should materially increase our influence and good name throughout Southern Africa.

11. After the most careful consideration of the subject, I am also quite satisfied that our duty as a nation is to take the course which I have pointed out.

12. In your Despatch to which I am replying is the following passage:—  
"But supposing that this declaration could be interpreted as preventing all future alliances with these nations, their territory is so far removed from any portions of Her Majesty's dominions that the probability of our interest requiring us to enter into such relations is extremely remote."

13. I am not aware who could have given you the erroneous information on which this observation is founded. The words used in the convention are, "Disclaim all alliances whatever and with whomsoever of the coloured nations north of the Vaal River."

14. The interpretation acted upon in reference to this clause is, all nations lying in a latitude north of the Vaal River. This interpretation has been and is being acted upon by the Boers, and it comprises several nations actually



STATE OF THE KAFFIR TRIBES.

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touching portions of Her Majesty's dominions, and has caused a dispute in reference to the limits of the Queen's possessions which shall be referred to you so soon as the preliminary inquiries in relation to it have been completed.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.,  
(Signed) G. GREY.

No. 18.

No. 18.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 113.)

Cape Town, November 21, 1856.

(Received January 23, 1857.)

(Answered No. 167, March 5, 1857, page 100.)

SIR,

ADVERTING to my Despatch No. 111,\* of the 1st November 1856, \* Page 53. relating to the impression produced generally upon the minds of the native tribes from the line of policy we were pursuing in South Africa, I have now the honour to transmit the copy of an extract of a letter from Kuruman, dated the 21st of August last, which has been just forwarded to me, from which you will find that the language used by the native tribes, even so far in the interior of this continent, is to this effect:

Enclosure.  
Kuruman,  
21st Aug. 1856.

"What is the use of taking up our time with these things, seeing the English, on whose justice and humanity we were wont to confide, have given us and our country over to the tender mercies of a lawless horde, to kill, plunder, and enslave us, who, in order to facilitate the work of extermination, are supplied with ammunition to their hearts' content, while we are cut off from procuring a single ounce."

2. I regret to say that I, late yesterday, received other accounts, from which it appears that the Tambookie race are very generally now joining those tribes who are hostile to us; but on this subject I will report more fully in another Despatch.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.,  
(Signed) G. GREY.

Enclosure in No. 18.

Encl. in No. 18.

EXTRACT of a Letter, dated Kuruman, 21st August 1856.

THE public mind has long been soured by the conduct of a Christian government towards them. This weighs like an incubus, and seems to paralyze efforts to improvement, either in evangelization or civilization. The natives say, "What is the use of taking up our time with these things, seeing the English, in whose justice and humanity we were wont to confide, have given us and our country over to the tender mercies of a lawless horde, to kill, plunder, and enslave us, and, in order to facilitate the work of extermination, are supplied with ammunition to their hearts' content, while we are cut off from procuring a single ounce." This testimony which they bear is true, and no mistake. They have often silenced us, by asking if ever they laid a straw in the way of commerce or enterprise on the part of the English, or whose blood did they ever shed of a white man under any pretence. "If we," they ask, "are to be entirely deprived of the means of defence, or even killing our own game, why should those who are set on our destruction be supplied?" The native mind is not so obtuse as not to perceive how the wind blows, or trace changes to their legitimate sources.

No. 19.

No. 19.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 121.)

Cape Town, December 23, 1856.

(Received March 18, 1857.)

(Answered No. 183, April 28, 1857, page 101.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to state, for your information, that one of the difficult questions which this Government at the present moment has to deal with,

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

is that connected with the capture and sale of Bushmen and other coloured children in the territories beyond our borders, who are afterwards brought into British possessions.

2. In reference to some of these proceedings, it is frequently alleged that high British authorities are in a great measure responsible for them, and I think that there can be little doubt that such allegations are frequently erroneous, and that no sufficient grounds exist for them, and in such cases it would be most desirable that they should be authoritatively contradicted.

Enclosure No. 1.  
Bloemfontein  
Gazette.

3. I have this morning received a copy of the Bloemfontein Gazette, which was forwarded to me from the Orange Free State, which paper is known to be the organ of the government in that territory.

4. In this paper it is stated that at the close of the year 1853 robberies had been committed in the Orange River Sovereignty which were attributed to Bushmen, and that, upon a deputation waiting upon Sir George R. Clerk at Bloemfontein, he promised to see the magistrate upon the matter, and to arrange with him a plan for putting a stop to thieving by these people, and also for making them useful or "dienstbaar," by dividing them, and hiring them out to the farmers in the neighbourhood.

5. Accordingly, that a few days afterwards orders were given by Sir George Clerk, through Mr. Lowen, the resident magistrate of Bloemfontein, that armed patrols should go out, and should for their services receive payment at the rate of 10s. per diem for man and horse. On the 13th December 1853 the first party of armed farmers went out, and captured eighty-seven men, women, and children, a portion of whom were at once divided amongst the persons present, and the remainder brought into the town, and apprenticed by the magistrate, Mr. Lowen.

6. On the 14th of February 1854 the patrol again went out. On this occasion six Bushmen were shot dead, three wounded, and about forty taken prisoners, and brought into Bloemfontein, and apprenticed, the same as on the first occasion.

Enclosure No. 2.  
Graham's Town  
Journal.

7. I forward for your information copies of the statements connected with these two occurrences, and of a third, which is said to have sprung from them, as they appeared in the Graham's Town Journal of the 22d of November 1856, and in the Bloemfontein Gazette of the 13th instant; and as Sir George R. Clerk and Mr. Lowen are both in England, I would suggest that the statement in the Bloemfontein Gazette should be reported to them, that their contradiction of it may be placed on record in England and in this country.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) G. GREY.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. 1 in No. 19.

Enclosure 1 in No. 19.

Bloemfontein, December 13, 1856.

In the Graham's Town Journal of the 22d ultimo we find a long communication from a correspondent, calling himself "A Trader," and dating his letter from Colesberg, relative to a massacre of Bushmen, or, as he calls it, an "Account of Murders committed" in the Free State on the last day of February 1854. The writer, in spite of his disguise, is, if we mistake not, well known to us, and is now residing in Graham's Town, and not in Colesberg, as he would have us suppose.

Our readers must not think that we wish to justify the indiscriminate killing or "shooting down" of Bushmen, degraded though they be; far from it; we most earnestly wish to see them raised in the scale of civilization; but at the same time, in the particular instance brought forward by "A Trader," we are desirous that the blame, if blame there is, should rest upon the right shoulders, and not upon the present Free State officials, who, we believe, never even heard of the affair before. In the first place, then, we would inform our readers and the readers of the Journal that Her Majesty's Special Commissioner, Sir G. Clerk, is alone responsible for these doings, good or bad. This must have been known to the "Trader;" but we fear that his sole aim being to mislead the colonial public, and to blacken the character of the officials and people of this state, he has purposely concealed the fact, or merely made a passing allusion to the authority of Sir G. Clerk.

At first sight we found the few facts so mixed up with exaggeration, and we are sorry to say even absolute falsehood, that, though some of the circumstances mentioned by the writer were fresh in our memory, we found it very difficult to determine with certainty the occasion to which he alludes; but, after making some inquiries, and comparing dates,

we have little doubt but that he refers to an affair at Esbag's Kop, near the farm of Van Zyl, in this district, and which is briefly noticed in our paper of the 11th March 1854.

Since the receipt of the Journal containing the letter in question, we have accidentally fallen in with the ex-field cornet and present member of volksraad, Mr. J. J. Hoffman of Modder River, who is admitted by the "Trader" to be a "worthy man," and to which we entirely agree. Mr. Hoffman has given us full permission to make use of his name; we shall not therefore imitate the "Trader" in the suppression of the names of the parties concerned, but give the narrative of what occurred on the day alluded to, as well as on two previous occasions, as we heard it yesterday from Mr. H. himself.

Mr. Hoffman informs us, that towards the end of 1853 he had lost between 70 and 80 sheep in one month, and that armed Bushmen had often been seen in the bush along the banks of the river on his farm. He had complained of these robberies to the then resident magistrate, Mr. Hector Lowen, who authorized him to get up an armed party of farmers to drive away the Bushmen, but this he did not do. However, shortly afterwards, he, in company with a deputation from the committee of delegates, viz., Dr. Fraser, Mr. H. J. Halse, Mr. Van Rensburg, and one other, waited upon Sir George Clerk, then in Bloemfontein. The members of the deputation on the same occasion brought several subjects to the notice of Sir George, but he (Mr. Hoffman) and Dr. Fraser brought forward the subject of Bushman depredations, and complained that they were then becoming more frequent than they had been at any previous period. Sir George promised to see the magistrate on the matter, and to arrange with him a plan for putting a stop to thieving by these people, and also for making them useful, or "dienstbaar," by dividing them, and hiring them out to the farmers in the neighbourhood. Accordingly a few days afterwards orders were given by Sir George Clerk, through Mr. Lowen, the resident magistrate of Bloemfontein, that armed patrols should go out, and should for their services receive payment at the rate of 10s. per day for man and horse. On the 13th December 1853 the first party of armed farmers went out, and captured 87 men, women, and children, a portion of whom were at once divided among the persons present, and the remainder brought into the town, and apprenticed by the magistrate, Mr. H. Lowen.

On the 14th February 1854 the patrol again went out. On this occasion six Bushmen were shot dead, three wounded, and about forty taken prisoners, and brought into Bloemfontein, and apprenticed, the same as on the first occasion.

We now come to the third affair, which is the one alluded to by the "Trader." This took place a few days after the convention had been signed by which the government of the country was transferred; but Sir George Clerk and the British troops and British officials were still here. Mr. Hoffman had resigned his appointment of field cornet, in consequence of the withdrawal of the British Government, but to oblige a neighbour, Mr. Alfred Buckley, then residing on the Modder River, who had requested assistance, on the ground that an ox belonging to him had been killed by Bushmen, and three sheep stolen, said to belong to the Combrinks, he again consented to go out in command of a party in search of the thieves. The Bushmen were not found in the place expected, but spoors, mallee-cobs, pumpkin-rinds, &c., were found, indicating that they had only recently taken their departure, and the party happened to fall in with a Bushman who was out hunting game, and inquired of him if he knew the whereabouts of Booy, Phaatz, and Hendrick, three Bushmen who had made their escape from one of the kraals in the second affair. The Bushman replied, that they were living at Esbag's Kop, and as these three were known to be great thieves, and had done a great deal of mischief in the district, the party decided upon following them next day. One of these men, "Booy," was tried recently before the combined court for stealing horses from A. Davunhage, and is now working in irons on the streets of Bloemfontein. They accordingly proceeded to Esbag's Kop, but found that most of the men had left the kraal on a hunting expedition before break of day, as described by the writer in the Journal. The final result was, that two men were shot dead, and one wounded with buck-shot, but is still living on the farm of Mr. Van Zyl. One woman was shot by mistake for a man, she being partially concealed in the long grass. One of the men was shot in self defence, by Mr. Hoffman, at a distance of about nine yards. Hendrick and Willem Pretorius were present at the time. Mr. Hoffman did not see the Bushman, who was concealed behind a large stone, till Hendrick Pretorius called out, "Take care; there is a Bushman firing at you." Mr. H. turned round, saw the arrow pointed at him, and fired instantly, without raising the gun to his shoulder, hitting the Bushman in the thigh. The Bushman took a second arrow, and was in the act of again taking aim, when Mr. H. fired a second time, shooting him in the forehead. This Bushman was afterwards found to be armed with three bows and 160 arrows, which were counted by Mr. H. and the two other persons. About thirty men, women, and children were captured, and divided among the party.

Mr. Hoffman asserts, that it is entirely untrue that any goats or cattle were seen, much less taken, except one pack-ox at a kraal under the mountain, and this was claimed by one of the Bushmen, who was allowed to retain it. Mr. Hoffman also denies the assertion that one of the party struck a Bushman with a large stick on the head, "causing the blood to flow like a fountain," as described by the "Trader," but admits that young Pretorius, a son of W. Pretorius, seized a stick out of the hand of a Bushman who was endeavouring to escape, and struck him with it, but that the only blood visible was a little on one ear.

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HOPE.

Mr. A. Buckley was present at the affair, and was requested to send in a report, but declined doing so, upon which Mr. Hoffman drew up one, which was sent in to Mr. Lowen, the provisional landroet, and nothing more was heard of it.

From that time to the present no thefts have been heard of in that part of the district. The Bushmen entirely left Eshag's Kop and the surrounding country. The three attacks upon Bushmen mentioned above took place within two or three hours' ride of each other. Two of the affairs took place under the direct sanction of the British Government, and the third before the new government was properly organized. We have already said more than we intended on the subject, but, if necessary, we have been promised a copy, and can publish the official report which was sent in at the time.

Encl. 2 in No. 19.

Enclosure 2 in No. 19.

Graham's Town Journal, November 22, 1852.

ORANGE FREE STATE.

To the Editor.

Colesberg, November 7, 1856.

SIR,

THE public attention having of late been directed to the Free State, by the deplorable proceedings in the case of C. L. Cox, it will perhaps interest some of your readers to peruse the following account of murders committed in that same country some two or three years ago.

I shall content myself with simply stating the case as it occurred, and leave the public to make their own comment. I may, however, be permitted to say that I know the statement to be true, as it was made to me by several of the men who were present and took part in the deed. I think I may also venture to say that the case could easily be proved in any court of justice, if a guarantee were given for the safety of the witnesses after giving their evidence. You will permit me, for reasons that can be easily imagined, to conceal the real names of the parties, though at the same time you may rely on the narrative being substantially correct.

It was a beautiful morning in the month of February, when a party of Boers, well mounted and armed, started in pursuit of some marauders, who were said to be in their neighbourhood. Not finding the marauders, the party agreed to proceed to a Bushman kraal, to see whether the marauders had taken shelter there. They agreed, however, that the kraal should be broken up, and the Bushmen distributed amongst them, whether the marauders were found there or not. So far all were agreed; but now a difference took place on other points.

A. wished to purchase all the children that did not fall to his share. He intended, he said, to take them into the colony for sale. He remarked, it would not be worth while to do so except he could get a sufficient number.

Here B, who was not so well informed as his companions, remarked, "But you will get nothing for them there, as they will be free."

"Not a bit of it," replied A. "They will not be free till they find it out, and on a lonely farm it will take some years to come at the fact, and it may be that their whole life will be spent in ignorance of it. At all events I will risk that, if I can but buy those who do not fall to my share."

"I think," says C, "That our best plan will be, if we get enough to make it worth while, to send them to Delagoa Bay, as there we can sell them well; or if we choose we can get other slaves in return, and those that we get there will not be so likely to run away, for being strangers in the country they will not know where to go; but at any rate (addressing himself to B) do you not think that the best plan will be to shoot the old ones, for whether we keep them or sell them the very old ones will be an incumbrance?"

B. was about to answer in jest, as he thought he knew the whole of the party, and believed that none among them were capable of thus acting; but as he had often heard that this was a common practice among the Boers, he thought it better not to jest, as it was probable C. might be in earnest. He therefore said, "What right have we to shoot them or molest them in any way, except it be found that they harbour thieves?"

Here D. and E. joined in with C, and said, "We all know they are inferior beings, intended for our use, as hewers of wood and drawers of water, and when they are not fit for that we are warranted in shooting them?"

B. replied, "They were created by God, and we have no right to ask him what he means by creating such creatures, or to destroy what he has made."

This answer silenced the opposition, and all passed off as a jest. The next thing to be considered was, how the kraal was to be taken. It was supposed to be very strong, and to contain at least fifty men, besides being well fortified by nature. It was on a neck which divided the summit of a very high mountain into two conical hills, with an way of ascent but by climbing a steep rocky mountain. The Bushmen in this place reminded one of "the conies who are a feeble folk, yet make their house in the rocks." During the few weeks previous to this several parties of Bushmen had been fallen upon and shot by

parties of Boers, and it was thought that the Bushmen now to be captured, should they have heard of these occurrences, might resist, and that if they got warning, and were prepared, all the Boers in the country would not dislodge them. The attacking party were not more than ten men, none of whom knew the way up the mountain; but there were other difficulties in the way. The place on which these Bushmen were living was private property, and they had the permission of the proprietor, who was a very humane man, to dwell there, and some of the party thought they ought not to molest these Bushmen without first acquainting him with their design. They contended that he was an honest man, and would not attempt to screen the marauders if they were in the kraal. They might also, they said, capture some of his own servants, should they take all that were found there. Others said, that if they warned the proprietor the Bushmen would all escape; that his humanity was not consistent with justice; and that if they let him know he would give information to the Bushmen, whom he had no right to allow on his farm. As for the legality of it, there was no law in the land, nor did they acknowledge any authority but that of Sir George Clerk.

After much more discussion on these and similar subjects, it was finally settled that they should not send to the proprietor of the farm, but to some of his tenants secretly, and invite them to join the party. By this arrangement the party would not only be increased in number, but they would be of the right sort, men who knew the locality and strength of the position. The party was now increased to fourteen men, who commenced to arrange a plan to surprise the kraal at the first dawn of day the following morning. They were now about ten miles distant from it, and they agreed to remain where they were until dark, and then proceed to the house of one of the afore-mentioned tenants close under the mountain. By staying at a house they thought that no fire or noise of horses would be noticed by the Bushmen. About three o'clock in the morning, when the moon had gone down, the party proceeded to take their several stations, and await the dawn of day. Four proceeded on foot straight up the mountain from that side on which the house stood to take possession of a rock at that end of the neck of land already described where the kraals were. C. accompanied this party. Ten men went round the mountain, to ascend from the opposite side at the foot of the mountain, while D. and another man was left in charge of the horses; the remaining eight divided, four taking the conical hill on the right, and four that on the left. A. accompanied those to the right, and B. and E. went with those to the left. Having all taken their stations, they were anxiously awaiting the break of day; but before the day broke all the active Bushmen went out to hunt game, which abounded in that country. These passed the Boers without suspecting that there was a foe so near. The Boers could distinctly hear them converse, as well as every footstep; but it would have been bad policy to stop them, as, if the attempt had been made, it was too dark to afford the slightest hope of success; while it is quite certain that the whole kraal would have been alarmed and have escaped. They were allowed therefore to pass unmolested. When the day dawned, the party on the right found that their guide had not brought them near enough to the kraal. The position they occupied was on the top of a rock that overlooked the kraal, but there was a thick bush between them. B. proposed that one man should remain there, and keep a look out, and he might also assist in the event of a skirmish, as the spot was within gun-shot of the kraal. To this they all agreed, and B. descended, followed by E. and another man. They beckoned to a worthy man at the foot of the opposite conical hill, to whom the whole party looked up, their field-cornet, although he had long since resigned that office, because there was no government that he could acknowledge. He did not, however, approach nearer, but called to the Bushmen to come out on the open ground, promising that none should hurt them. B. had now arrived at the kraal, and mounted on a rock about seven feet high. At the foot of this rock were the huts of the Bushmen, and two kraals; one containing cattle, and the other goats. The bewildered Bushmen (or rather Bushwomen, for men there were but two,) were running to and fro, not knowing where to go, while the two old men stood motionless and composed. B. now called to the other party, telling them the helpless state of the poor people, and that there was evidently no intention to resist, but that they were making their escape, and if they did not come to his assistance the birds would all fly. A. then said to the Bushmen, "If you do not come out we will shoot you;" calling also to B. to retire, or, the Bushmen would shoot him. To this B. replied, "If they do it will be because they are emboldened by your cowardice and exasperated by your threats. I tell you that there are but two men, and they have not so much as a switch in the shape of a weapon." E., who had fallen to the rear some fifty paces before B. reached the kraal, now crept to the edge of the bush, and seeing that it was as B. said, he rushed out on the old men, and without saying a single word struck one of them on the head with a thick piece of wood about four feet long. The old man begged for mercy, but no mercy was shown him. The ruffian continued to strike him with the piece of wood, while the poor old man vainly endeavoured to ward off the blows with his naked arms. The blood flowing as from a fountain had saturated the ground for some distance. B. seeing this leapt from the rock, rifle in hand, placing himself between E. and his victim, bid E. to desist, and told the poor fellow that if he would stay near him he would protect him. E. instantly turned from one old man, but it was only to make an attack on the other. B. left the first, that he might defend the second. The wounded man, fearing the return of E., ran off. A. saw him, and called to him to stand, but as he would not A. fired,

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and laid him lifeless. The ex-field-cornet, who, like B., did not until now suspect the intention of the greater portion of the party, but was intent only on catching the marauders if they were found there, and who also, like B., had thought that all the talk about shooting was a mere jest, now saw to his horror and astonishment that there was no jesting in the case. He made every exertion to prevent further bloodshed, but it was too late, the bloodhounds were loosed, and had tasted blood. The next moment another gun fired; it was that of C., and true to what he had expressed the previous day, he sent into eternity an old woman, who was, by the help of a stick, making her way to the bush. B. now called to his friend whom he had left at the top of the rock, and whom he knew to be a sincere Christian, to come down, and put a stop to this inhuman butchery; but this good man—and he was a good man—was so overcome with horror, that he had no power to rise from the stone on which he sat, but hid his face, that he might not witness the awful deeds now being acted beneath his feet. Not so, however, the ex-field-cornet and B. They were exasperated to such a degree that they for the moment forgot their own helpless condition, and how easily they might be made to suffer with those they tried to save, and they confronted all that dared to lift their hands against these defenceless Bushmen, regardless of their number; but the field had now become too wide for two men to defend, the terrified Bushmen having fled in all directions. The Boers had also separated in pursuit. The next that fell was a nice little girl about twelve or thirteen years of age. She was a very affectionate nurse. She was shot by A.; but lest you should think that I am exaggerating, I will give you the account of her death in his own words, as given to the rest of the party when they met. His statement was as follows:—"I have shot little 'Sartij, that used to live with Mrs. ———.'" One of the party asked, "Why did you shoot her? She was a very good girl, and any of us would have been glad of her service." He replied, with as much composure as if he had shot a worthless dog, "By mistake. She was hiding behind a bush, and I did not know but that she was a man. When I went up to her, and found that her leg was broken, I then blew out her brains to put her out of her misery." This story he still adheres to. I have heard him express it myself. The ex-field-cornet was in the same direction, exerting himself to restore order. B. was still in the same place where we had last seen him rescue the old man. He caught hold of the frightened old man by the shoulders, and pulled him to the ground, bidding him sit still, as if he ran about he could not defend him. He collected, besides this old man, fifteen women and children, and made them all sit down together, that he might the better protect them. While thus employed, he saw a number of women and children who had eluded their pursuers, and had passed about two miles over the plain below in the direction of the house of the proprietor of the farm. As they had got so much the start he hoped that they would entirely escape. He knew that the strongest of the Boers could not overtake them on foot, and the horses were too far from them to think that they could reach them in time to pursue. In this, however, he was mistaken, for at this moment a voice like thunder shouted from the mountain, which was answered by D. and his companion below, who now left the spare horses, and mounting their own, they soon overtook these helpless creatures, driving them along like a flock of sheep. When they came near to the foot of the mountain, B. saw D. fire off his gun, and seeing no object on the spot to which the gun was pointed but a little child, he supposed they had commenced to shoot the infants. He called a man that he saw passing, and begged him to keep the Bushman and women, while he ran down the mountain to prevent, if possible, the murder of the children. He entreated this man not to leave them, or they would assuredly be shot. In a few seconds he was at the bottom of the mountain, and coming up to D. he demanded, "Why did you shoot that little child?" "I did not shoot the child, but its mother," was the reply. "And where is the child?" "It is lying with its mother on the plain there;" and sure enough it was. About five or six hundred yards further, for they had come that distance since he fired, there lay a dead woman with a living child clinging to her. The monsters, or rather I would say the men, as it is not my intention to give any colouring to this narrative, but simply to state facts, were leaving the child to perish with its dead mother. B. then returned to the mountain, and found that the old man he had just before left quietly sitting with the women, had been shot. But I am tired of detail. Suffice it to say, that seven were shot, and thirty-seven were captured and carried into bondage. The cattle and goats were also taken by the Boers. None of the marauders, nor any trace of them, or the value of a pin of stolen or even suspected property, were found there. I must not forget to state that A. said that one whom he shot had a bow and poisoned arrows, and that he shot him in self-defence. Now I do solemnly declare that this case is the only one in which even the actors themselves give any greater reason for shooting them than that they attempted to escape, and the reason already given for shooting the girl.

The whole party now proceeded to the house they had that morning left. Here they washed themselves, and after having asked a blessing they partook of a hearty breakfast. One muttered to himself, "Solomon had these men plainly before him when he wrote his proverb, 'She wipeth her mouth, and saith I have done no wickedness.' If he were now present he could not better describe them." The whole party now seemed to rejoice as if they had just taken Sebastopol. But there were three who did not partake of the general joy. Their looks betokened serious reflection, which had vent in words whenever an opportunity offered, in the following manner: "Is there not a God that ruleth on the earth? Will he not take vengeance for this day's work? But what course shall

" we pursue? Should we report the case, and insist on being heard, we might as well bring the case to the notice of the men whose hands were this morning embred in blood as to any other on earth."

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After this conversation, they came to the conclusion that they would neither report the case nor in any way conceal it. They would tell every one that they came in conversation with, and if there was any authority that would inquire they would be prepared to give evidence. So this matter ended.

This I was told not by one merely, but by A., B., C., D., and E., and one or two others. I have taken particular care not to note the evidence of one against the other, except when it was confessed to by the parties themselves. I have since heard that the ex-field-cornet, contrary to his first resolution, sent a report to the Free State Government, to the effect that three Bushmen were shot in self defence. I do not give this as truth, because I did not get it from himself, still I believe that he did. Let the public judge of this act as it pleases; but let me ask any man that will judge to put himself first in the position of him that he judges, for I repeat he is a worthy man.

A. TRADDER.

P.S.—Should the Free State government say that they have no knowledge of the facts here mentioned, I would ask how comes it that it is not only well known in Bloemfontein and the surrounding country to every one whose memory is two years long, but it is known to individuals in every frontier town in the colony, and also in London and Paris; and how can they be ignorant of it? But should that government say that the account now given is incorrect, then I challenge that government to disprove it. They know that the occurrence took place. I believe that it is on their official records, although in another form. The date I have mentioned is near enough, but we will now come nearer the date, and say on the last day of February 1854. This date is not two days wrong. Now if the government will summon all the parties that were at the capture of Bushmen on that day, and take their evidence, and if they disagree in their evidence then take the evidence of the captives themselves, and if the case is not fully and clearly proved as stated in this letter, then I will pay the expense of the summoning of the witnesses, and you, Mr. Editor, shall be at liberty to expose my name to the world as a malicious slanderer, provided that all the witnesses are summoned, and those that are still in the Free State be compelled to come, and those who have left to send their depositions, while the captives, if required to complete the case, be first set free, that they may not be intimidated by their captors, and that it shall be pronounced by the inhabitants of Bloemfontein a fair trial in every respect. Let not the President say that he does not know me, and cannot trust that I will pay the expense if the case is not proved. Let him give notice through the Journal that he accepts the challenge, and he shall receive a certificate from one of the banks that the money is lodged, and will be paid by the bank if the case is not proved when fairly tried. But if he will not accept this challenge, and convict or acquit his countrymen, then may the world know that the murder of Bushmen and Englishmen are not considered crimes in the Free State.

A. T.

No. 20.

No. 20.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 3.)

Cape Town, January 12, 1857.

(Received March 18, 1857.)

SIR,

(Answered No. 172, March 24, 1857, p. 101.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for the purpose of being laid before the Queen, a dutiful address to Her Majesty from the inhabitants of Graham's Town, expressing their profound loyalty and attachment to the Queen, and their unfeigned thanks for the efficient and timely military aid which was by Her Majesty afforded to this frontier, to which wise precaution they attribute the exemption they have up to the present time enjoyed from the horrors of another barbarian war.

Enclosures 1 and 2.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

G. GREY.

Enclosure 1. in No. 20.

Encl. 1 in No. 20.

Government House, Graham's Town,  
January 8, 1857.

SIR,

In accordance with the request contained in the annexed copy of a communication from the Honourable Robert Goddard, Esquire, in his capacity as chairman of a public

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meeting held in the town hall on the 22d ultimo, I have the honour to forward to your Excellency the enclosed address to the Queen's most excellent Majesty from the inhabitants of this city, and to request that your Excellency will be pleased to transmit it for presentation to Her Majesty, as solicited by Mr. Godlonton.

I have, &c.

J. JACKSON,

Lt. Governor.

To his Excellency Sir G. Grey,  
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Encl. to  
Encl. 1. in No. 20.

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure 1 in No. 20.

SIR,

Graham's Town, January 4, 1857.

R. Godlonton, M.L.C.,  
Chairman of Public  
Meeting.  
G. Wood, M.L.C.  
W. Hirkoruth,  
Chairman of Municipality.  
Dr. W. C. Edg.  
C. Vot.

AS chairman of the public meeting held in the town hall of this city on the 22d ultimo, at which it was resolved unanimously to address the Queen, expressive of the fervent gratitude of the inhabitants to Her most gracious Majesty for the timely succour which has been afforded them, I have now the honour and pleasure to forward to you, in the name of the committee, whose names are given in the margin, the address which has been framed in accordance with the resolutions of that meeting subscribed by upwards of a thousand inhabitants. This document you will be so good as to lay before the Lieut.-Governor, with the respectful request of the committee that his honour will be pleased to forward the same to his Excellency Sir George Grey, for transmission by him to its destination.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. GODLONTON.

Richard Southey, Esq.,  
Secretary to Lieut.-Governor,  
Graham's Town.

Encl. 2 in No. 20.

Enclosure 2 in No. 20.

To the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.

May it please your Majesty.

The undersigned inhabitants of the city of Graham's Town, eastern province of the Cape of Good Hope, approach your Majesty with sentiments of profound loyalty, and of ardent attachment to your Majesty's person and Government.

They desire, more especially at this time, to convey to your Majesty their unfeigned thanks for the efficient and timely succour that has been recently sent to this frontier, which they confidently believe has averted from this province, under the overruling direction of a wise and gracious Providence, the horrors of another barbarian war.

They cannot be unmindful, while thus giving expression to their heartfelt gratitude, that the tranquillity they have enjoyed during the two past years, and the degree of prosperity to which this province has attained, are to be attributed, in submission to the Great Disposer of Events, to that regard which has been shown by your Majesty to this exposed and oft-overrun portion of your Majesty's dominions. Nor can they ever fail to cherish in lively and grateful remembrance that at a time when called upon to engage in one of the most stupendous conflicts the world ever saw, and when the resources of your Majesty's empire were strained beyond all precedent, that at such a time, and under such circumstances, your Majesty maintained so efficient a force on this border, under the command of a zealous and an able officer, as insured security to your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, thus enabling them to continue their peaceful avocations, and to enjoy in comparative tranquillity, under the maternal and benignant Government of your Majesty, the fruits of their industry.

They are impressed with the conviction that were they to observe silence it might, under such circumstances, be construed into insensibility; and hence, impelled by a sense of duty, they venture to offer to your Majesty their expression of unfeigned gratitude, and more especially for that timely succour which has been recently sent to them at a moment of great public anxiety and of imminent danger. The presence on this frontier of so imposing a body of your Majesty's troops, whose gallant achievements in the Crimea have earned for them so high a meed of renown, is so signal and emphatic a proof of your Majesty's consideration for this portion of the realm as must necessarily increase in intensity all those feelings of attachment which have ever been cherished by the people of this province towards the British crown.

In giving expression to these sentiments, they would humbly entreat your Majesty to believe that in no part of your Majesty's wide dominions is fealty to their sovereign more fully understood or more deeply cherished than by your Majesty's subjects in this province. They hail, therefore, the opportunity which claims from them this avowal of their fidelity and attachment, and at the same time they would most fervently pray that Divine Providence may guide all your Majesty's councils, guard from every danger, and graciously



# STATE OF THE KAFFIR TRIBES.

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bestow upon your Majesty all those blessings which spring from pure domestic enjoyment, and a happy and glorious reign.

City of Graham's Town,  
December 22, 1856.

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1,037 Signatures.

No. 21.

No. 21.

COPY of a DESPATCH from GOVERNOR SIR GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 7.)

Cape Town, January 27, 1857.

Sir,

(Received March 18, 1857.)

(Answered No. 201, June 4, 1857, page 103.)

I THINK it as well to acquaint you, by the opportunity afforded by the departure of the usual monthly steamer, with the present aspect of affairs in Kaffraria.

2. You are aware that for a long time a prophet has been exercising a considerable degree of influence in that country, promising that the dead should rise again; that a new race of cattle should appear in Kaffraria in countless numbers, and be divided amongst those who believed in him and fulfilled his commands; and that the English and European races should, on the appearance of the newly risen dead, be swept before them into the sea. The fulfilment of these predictions was, however, to be contingent upon the Kaffirs having in the first instance destroyed all their own cattle and corn, and having refrained from cultivating the ground, so as to leave themselves wholly without the means of subsistence.

3. This extraordinary delusion spread rapidly through the country, and the singular spectacle has been for some time presented of whole races exerting themselves energetically to destroy all their own property, and to reduce themselves to a state of starvation.

4. I have already reported in several despatches my belief that this delusion was countenanced and encouraged by some of the chiefs, with the intention of producing such distress in the country that the Kaffirs would recklessly engage in a war, whilst the great body of the people adopted the delusion from ignorance and superstition, and really gave credit to the predictions of the prophet. There can be no doubt that for some time past several of the chiefs, and many of their now impoverished people, have been anxious for war, and have endeavoured to induce the Government to take some step which would hurry on a contest with them, in which case the great bulk of the Kaffir nation, who do not desire a war, would probably have been forced to engage in hostilities with us.

5. The Government here, acting upon this view of the case, has quietly, but unswervingly, continued to carry out all its measures as if a war were a contingency not even to be thought of, and as if it was certain that profound peace would continue to prevail.

6. At the same time, as it was evident that the measures which the Kaffirs were taking must day by day render them less fit to embark in a war, and as it was certain that the longer the fulfilment of the predictions of the prophet were delayed so much the greater would become the discontent of the people with their chiefs and with the prophet, and so much the more bitter would be their mutual disagreements, the Government has, with the utmost care, refrained from taking any step which might give the very slightest cause for the commencement of hostilities, or the least excuse for any outbreak; and while this policy was pursued, every one in his proper position has unremittedly worked at putting the country into the best possible position, both for its own defence, and for the purposes of aggressive movements against the enemy.

7. Thus the Kaffirs have constantly grown less and less capable of carrying on military operations, whilst we, upon the other hand, have constantly been better and better prepared for a contest with them, if it was unhappily found that this could not be avoided.

8. The result as yet has been what we anticipated; the Kaffirs are now quarrelling among themselves, and indulging in mutual reproaches as to which

Enclosures 1, 2.

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of them is responsible for the evils in which their nation is involved. They are discouraged by our evident strength and preparedness for anything which may occur, whilst our own people have been gradually acquiring confidence, are in high spirits, and are fully prepared for war. I see, therefore, still every reason to hope that no Kaffir war will take place, and that when the measures pursued in Kaffraria are in full operation, and have had time to work, we shall find that we can draw great ultimate advantages from the extraordinary circumstances which have recently taken place in that country, and I think the general opinion is that peace will be preserved. It must still, however, be remembered that the Orange Free State contemplates engaging in a war with Moshesh in February next; and if they should unhappily pursue this course, it is difficult to foresee what complications may arise from such a proceeding.

I have, &c.

The Right. Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

Encl. 1 in No. 21.

Enclosure 1 in No. 21.

SIR,

Dohne, January 13, 1857.

SINCE writing my official letter of the 4th instant, a change for the better is again taking place, as stated to you in my demi-official of the 10th instant. In accordance with the intention expressed in my letter of the 10th, I proceeded to Sandilli's yesterday, from whence I returned this evening, having made a détour to the right in returning to-day.

At Sandilli's kraal I found the chiefs Sandilli, Xoxo, and Fyan, together with 1,200 of their counsellors and people waiting my arrival.

I briefly stated to them their present position and prospects, brought about by their listening to Krelli, and rejecting the friendly admonitions of Government, and that I had now met them to endeavour to avert further ruin.

Sandilli had ruined himself and people by listening to the advice of evil counsellors, and rejecting the advice of those whose advice had he followed he would now have enjoyed prosperity and plenty. The delusion in Umhlakaza was not yet finally ended, but must soon cease, and I trusted the past would be a lesson to Sandilli to discriminate between those who gave good advice, and those who were the cause of destruction to himself and people.

Umlunguzi, one of the chief counsellors of the Umhlakaza party, in a very violent manner, stated that I had brought a charge against Sandilli's counsellors, and insisted that I should name the persons who had given evil counsel to Sandilli.

I told Umlunguzi that I had had many public meetings with Sandilli's tribe since the beginning of the delusion, and that at each meeting what I had advised was publicly adopted, but privately subverted; I had made no reference to Umlunguzi, and if he felt that he was guilty I could not help it.

Umlunguzi having repeated his demand, he was told that his question was already answered; a fact was stated, he did not deny it, but if he did it could be established.

A fierce altercation now ensued between the leaders of the believers and unbelievers. Tyala, the second counsellor and the head of the opposition to Umhlakaza, stating that I was quite right, and that Umlunguzi himself was one of the evil counsellors, and that though I was ignorant of the fact he was not, and could prove it.

Words ran high, and I feared blows would result, when Vena, the chief counsellor, interfered, saying, I had not come to ask what any man had done and said, but that I wished some plan to be devised for averting further evils; that the matters now discussed should not be debated in my hearing, but that I should be simply acquainted with the result.

Tyala insisted that I was here simply as the friend of the people, I should hear all, and be as determined I should know the whole truth.

On my stating that it was not my wish that disclosures should be made, but that I only wished to devise the best means of escaping from the difficulty into which the people had fallen, I wished the discussion to cease; both parties yet believed themselves to be right, but in a few days more Umhlakaza's votaries would acknowledge their error, and then the point could be discussed, when it was but right that all should receive their deserts.

In the meanwhile I might inform them that though troops were now landing and two thousand were daily expected, and though they (the Kaffirs) were within our power as they never had been, the Governor still sought their welfare, and he had provided means for the support of those who were disposed to seek an honest livelihood; but if the Kaffirs were determined on war, means were also provided for at once breaking their power and effectually crushing them; this meeting was called, not for the purpose of sowing discord among the counsellors; all were yet convinced that they were right, Umhlakaza's party thought they were right, and the unbelievers equally believed that truth was on their side, and I wished the discussion now to cease.

The feeling on both sides was so violent that I found no agreement could be come to, and as it was already sunset, the meeting having lasted seven hours, I told the people to disperse, and that I would hear from the chiefs what arrangements had been made.

The unbelievers, who at the beginning of the month had been in a great state of terror, have gradually regained courage, and think they are in no further danger, though many of them had sent their cattle to the tribes of Anta and Aba for security; cattle killing has now ceased, and altogether matters have now taken a more marked and decided change than heretofore.

I cannot speak with any certainty of the feelings and condition of other tribes, but I now feel confident that from the Gaikas at least war is not to be apprehended; but, though confident, my confidence of course cannot amount to certainty, for although many of the firmest believers in Umhlabakusa have ceased to hope, the feeling in most is not yet extinct, and might easily be revived.

It is reported that Xito had declared his determination of leaving Kobougha and returning to the Bashee, as all was a delusion. Should he leave, a death blow will be struck to the imposition, particularly as a report is gaining ground very extensively that the whole thing was got up by Umgangezi to be revenged on Kveli for disgracing his sister.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES BROWNLEE,

Gaika Commissioner.

Colonel Maclean, Chief Commissioner.

Enclosure 2 in No. 21.

Encl. 2 in No. 21.

Sta,

Windvogelsberg, January 10, 1857.

I HAVE much pleasure in informing you that the slaughtering infatuation which was beginning to show itself in parts of my district towards the end of last month is rapidly disappearing. About the beginning of this month an idea was prevalent amongst the Tambookies, and also in my own district, that Anta had gone to visit the prophet; but since his return from King William's Town the aspect of affairs has been improving.

I have had several long conversations with Anta lately, and both he and Abo have requested me to inform you that they are particularly anxious to leave Kaffirland. Abo said to me yesterday, "I am very tired of all this Kaffir nuisance, and you must tell " Maclean that I wish to leave this part of the country; I hope you will not forget to " tell him this."

I beg to append minutes of a conversation I had with Anta two days ago.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. E. ROBERTSON,

S. Magistrate.

#### MINUTES of a Conversation with the Chief Anta on the 8th instant.

Capt. R.—Well, Anta, I hear you have some news for me?

Anta.—Yes, I think. Sandilli sent me two messages yesterday, saying that Kveli had sent Gewazi to him with an order to slaughter all his cattle, and requesting him to send an order to the chief under him to do the same, for some of the people had risen from the dead.

Question.—Who is Gewazi?

Anta.—He was formerly one of Sandilli's people, but he now lives under Kveli.

Question.—What answer did you send Sandilli?

Anta.—I told the messenger to thank Sandilli for the news, and to say that I was surprised at him for sending a messenger about so important a business; that I thought he ought to have called a meeting, according to custom, and consulted with the petty chief before deciding himself; that I was anxious to know the names of the people who had risen from the dead; and that I thought it was very childish destroying so much valuable property at the order of a girl.

Capt. R.—I think you answered him very well. Don't you think there is some other reason for Kveli's wishing you to destroy your cattle?

Anta.—Yes; the Kaffirs think that if every thing is destroyed the English must die.

Capt. R.—What do you think; are we going to have a war?

Anta.—The Kaffirs will not begin; I think the English will. Xele and Umgangezi brought the country into the state as it is in at present. I think the Kaffirs will provoke the English to a war.

Capt. R.—I have a message for you from Maclean. He has heard that your people are slaughtering, and he hopes you will order them to desist.

Anta.—Tell Maclean that I thank him for his message, and that I will call a large meeting, and tell my people what he says. Very few of my people are slaughtering; only on the Thomas River; Genza is the only man in the Jutshi Keyli, and he now thinks that he has done wrong. My people are very painfully situated; they have much to bear. The people all round them believe in the prophet. Tell Maclean that I want to leave Kaffirland. If the Government does not do something for us, there will be war between me and Sandilli.

Capt. R.—I will tell Maclean what you say. Where do all the hides come from that I see sold every day at the Windvogelsberg?

Anta.—The people who bring them are Tambookie's and Kveli's people.

(Signed) R. E. ROBERTSON,

(Signed) John C. Kayser,  
Clerk and Interpreter.

Capt. 60th Regiment,  
S. Magistrate.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.  
No. 22.

No. 22.

COPY of a DESPATCH from GOVERNOR SIR GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 14.)

Government House, Cape Town,  
January 29, 1857.  
(Received March 18, 1857.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report that Her Majesty's steamer "Vulcan" arrived late last night with Baron Stutterheim, and the head quarters of the German Legion. I received by the "Vulcan" your various Despatches connected with the settlement of the Legion in this colony.

23d Jan. 1857.

2. From the enclosed copy of a letter which I addressed to Lieut.-General Sir James Jackson upon the 23d instant, you will find that the arrival of Baron Stutterheim had been so long delayed that I deemed it prudent to issue orders for the march of several detachments of the German Legion to the posts which had been respectively assigned them.

3. The "Covenanter" also arrived last night with another strong detachment of the German Legion. The arrangements made for the conveyance of the Legion to this country have, as yet, worked in every respect satisfactorily. The health of the men has been most excellent, and not one death or serious casualty has yet been reported to me.

4. The monthly mail steamer for England is now on the point of sailing. I have not therefore time to reply to your Despatches by the "Vulcan;" but I wished to state, in reference to your Despatch No. 128. of the 17th of November, regarding the 12th regiment being sent from this colony, that I am inclined to think such a proceeding at the present moment would be a very imprudent one.

5. The Kaffirs are a very shrewd and cunning race. They will not fail to remark that the number of the German Legion which has arrived is much below what had been calculated on. They will attribute this to our not being able to obtain more men; and I fear, if a reduction in the military force is made at the very moment the Legion arrives, the whole effect which is now being produced from such strong reinforcements arriving in the colony will be lost. We are, as I have already had the honour of reporting, now passing through a very severe and trying crisis. As yet, as far as it has gone, the advantage has been altogether on our side, and, until the danger is quite over, I hesitate to take any step which may in any manner endanger our present position of safety.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) G. GREY.

Encl. in No. 22.

Enclosure in No. 22.

Government House, Cape Town,  
January 23, 1857.

SIR,

HAVING delayed for a considerable time giving orders regarding the location of the German Legion, in the hope that the Commissioners would ere this have arrived in the colony, I have the honour to state that I do not think it just to the men themselves who have arrived, or a prudent measure, to leave so large a body of unemployed men encamped at East London, for whom, when increased by the arrival of their comrades, it would be very difficult to find transport for the purpose of removing their baggage and stores to the localities where they are to be finally settled.

I have therefore to request that your Excellency will be good enough to give orders for the march of the detachments of the strength named in the enclosed memorandum assigned to each detachment, issuing at the same time orders for the supply of rations to the detachments to which, by the terms of the conditions under which they were enrolled, they are entitled.

The only one of the localities named regarding which I have any doubt is the village of Theopolis, as I have not received any report from the proper authorities of the quantity of land available at that village for the accommodation of the German Legion. I have therefore to request that your Excellency, before ordering the march of a detachment of fifty men to that place, will ascertain from the civil authorities whether there is sufficient land at Theopolis to accommodate a detachment of that strength.

His Excellency  
Lieut.-General Sir James Jackson, K.C.B.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) G. GREY.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GAEY to the Right Hon  
H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 25.)

King William's Town, March 6, 1857

(Received May 11, 1857.)

(Answered No. 201, June 3, 1857, page 103.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report that Her Majesty's ship "Vulcan" arrived off East London on the evening of the 21st ultimo, but from the state of the bar at the mouth of the river no communication could be held with the shore until the 22d, when I landed.

2. I found that the Kaffir prophet, Umhlakaza, had fixed upon Wednesday the 18th ultimo as the day upon which his predictions were to be fulfilled. When the sun rose that morning it was to wander for a time in the heavens, and then set again in the east, when immediately a hurricane coming on was to sweep all who had not believed in him and obeyed his mandates, whether Europeans or Kaffirs, from the face of the earth. Then the ancestors of the Kaffirs were to rise from the dead, with countless herds of cattle of an improved breed, and with quantities of property of every description, all of which were to be showered out amongst his followers, who thenceforth, restored to youth and endowed with beauty, were to reside in a kind of Kaffir paradise.

3. For the few days preceding the 18th of February the followers of the Kaffir prophet slaughtered all their remaining cattle, and destroyed what means of subsistence they had left. They re-thatched their huts in the most careful manner, that they might resist the expected hurricane; and, finally, on the Wednesday, shut themselves up in them, awaiting the wonderful events which were to take place. On the Thursday they came out of their huts, downcast, destitute, and in many instances desperate.

4. Many were real and earnest followers of the prophet; some endeavoured to appear to fulfil the predictions of the prophet, destroying part of their cattle, and sending the residue to their friends to take care of. Many desperate characters went wildly and heartily into the project, believing it to be a political scheme, which was to result in war and tumult. A great part of the population, perhaps a third part of it, including most of those who are employed throughout the country as a government village police, had refused to obey the mandates of the prophet, and had preserved their cattle and corn, and had cultivated their land.

5. When I landed upon the 22d I found that the tumult had fairly begun. There were two great parties in the country, as they were termed; the believers and the unbelievers. The destitute believers were forming themselves into bands of robbers, and preparing to pillage their unbelieving countrymen and the Europeans.

6. The unbelieving Kaffirs were at their wits' end as to the manner in which they should preserve their cattle and property; some flying here and some there. The Europeans were greatly alarmed lest the marauders should in armed bodies overwhelm the European settlements; and robberies were frequent upon the high roads. Upon Wednesday the 25th ultimo a private of the 89th regiment was murdered at East London, and Captain Ohlsen, an officer of the German military settlers, who is stated to have been a very distinguished and deserving officer, was robbed and barbarously murdered on the same evening, within half a mile of King William's Town.

7. Under these circumstances measures were taken as rapidly as possible;—

To provide employment on public works and otherwise for all destitute persons who may choose to work;—

To make such arrangements as may prevent bands of marauders from passing into the colony;—

To render secure the principal high roads in British Kaffraria;—

And so to organize the unbelieving natives, who still preserve their cattle and property, that they may successfully resist and put down the marauding believers.

8. In furtherance of these objects, I felt it my duty on the 3d instant to issue the proclamation a copy of which is herewith transmitted.

Proclamation.

9. At present matters appear to be again settling down. Great destitution undoubtedly prevails; in many parts the country is covered throughout the day by crowds of women and children, digging wild roots, as the only means

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of subsistence they can procure. It is impossible for any arrangements the Government can make for the relief of destitution to reach the wild and distant parts of the country, and it is to be feared that large numbers of persons must perish from dysentery, fever, and other effects of famine. So great is the want prevailing, that Bangi, one of the principal chiefs of Kafirland, is compelled to work on the public roads, where he is employed as an overseer. The unbelievers have now in a great degree regained confidence. They have collected into bodies, and are defending themselves against the believers, and arresting such thieves as they can catch. The Europeans are also now entirely easy again, and general confidence appears to have taken the place of the confusion which for a few days prevailed.

10. The position of the Government appears to be greatly strengthened. Two of the most powerful tribes have actually applied for military protection against their own countrymen. This of course could not be accorded to them, but indirect assistance and encouragement has been given.

11. The whole of the authorities, civil and military, have, during the very trying crisis which has taken place, done their duty with the utmost firmness and prudence, and in a manner which entitles them to the warmest commendation.

12. I think that there is now no probability of a war resulting from these disturbances; but in order effectually to prevent this it may be necessary to crush one or more robber bands, if they should collect in force at any point; and for this purpose the Government will still, for a few months, continue to strengthen itself. If this is done, I think the chiefs who are now employed by the Government will, from a sense of self-preservation, do all the rest themselves. Most of them have now no means of subsistence whatever left but their salaries as native magistrates, and are thus entirely dependent on the Government. This fact, and their desire to save the cattle which the good members of their tribes still retain from marauding strangers, makes them exert themselves vigorously on the side of law and order; and I see every reason to hope that they will persevere in this course.

13. It will probably be in my power, before any opportunity presents itself of sending letters to England, to make another report to you on the state of the country, and I will take care to avail myself of such an opportunity if it presents itself, in order that you may be in possession of the latest information from this part of South Africa.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) G. GREY.

Encl. in No. 23

Enclosure in No. 23.

## GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

King William's Town, March 3, 1857.

His Excellency the High Commissioner hereby acquaints the Kaffir chiefs, that various acts of robbery by armed men have been recently committed in British Kaffraria, in some instances accompanied by murder, as also that armed Kaffirs have committed depredations within the colony, which system, if continued, will undoubtedly lead also to dreadful murders of innocent persons. His Excellency feels that it is necessary at once to check proceedings, which, if allowed to continue, will lead to such lamentable results, and which are unpardonable, as labour is provided for all industrious well-disposed persons who may be in a state of destitution.

He has therefore directed that four Kaffirs who were caught this morning in the Crown Reserve, under circumstances which leave no room to doubt they were thieves, shall be forthwith transported; and he notifies generally, that all persons caught attempting to commit or having committed robbery with arms in their hands, will, when convicted of such offence, be punished with death.

He also warns the chiefs that all Kaffirs found robbing in the colony or elsewhere will be fired upon, if it is found impossible to capture them. His Excellency therefore urges upon the chiefs the necessity of warning their people of the danger, they will incur if they become marauders.

By order of his Excellency Her Majesty's High Commissioner,

(Signed) JOHN MACLEAN,  
Chief Commissioner.

COPY of a DESPATCH from GOVERNOR SIR GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 31.)

King William's Town, March 12, 1857.

(Received May 27, 1857.)

(Answered No. 201, June 4, 1857, page 103.)

SIR,

SINCE I addressed you on the 6th instant, regarding the present state of Kaffraria, affairs have continued much in the same state, with the exception that there are unmistakable indications of a gradual return to tranquillity.

2. From the enclosed report from the Gaika Commissioner of yesterday's date, you will find that confusion and disorder still prevail between the two great Kaffir parties, the believers and the unbelievers. In Krelli's country the deaths of 23 persons have been reported, who have died either in defending or in taking cattle. Numbers of other persons must have fallen in the same way whose deaths have never been heard of. In the same district, that is, in Kaffraria Proper, two influential men have committed suicide from despair at the state of destitution to which their families were reduced. In the Gaika district on this side of the River Kei, eight deaths have taken place in contests between the believers and unbelievers. In other parts of Kaffraria, deaths of Kaffirs are frequently reported, and robbers have been continually captured, and sent in for trial. When convicted, they are sentenced to transportation, and at once removed to Cape Town.

3. Such a state of things has hitherto been quite unknown in this country; so much so, that new terms have been invented to describe many of the events which are daily passing.

4. The indications of a speedy return to a more favourable state of things are, that the chiefs appear to have lost all their power; the country is in fact divided into two great parties, believers and unbelievers; that is, the destitute and those who have property. The former party forcibly seize all they can get hold of; the latter party resolutely defend all they have, and this latter party have now taken heart, and have collected in masses, and they not only resolutely repel the believers, but go in bodies, and by force of arms bring out, as it is now termed, their brother unbelievers, together with their cattle and families, from districts inhabited by believers, where they are generally assailed by many enemies. The unbelievers have, in short, become so resolute, that in every part of the country they hold their ground, and get the better of their assailants. These latter, finding they are repulsed, captured, and sent in for trial, are gradually relinquishing a pursuit which yields so little of profit and so much that is disagreeable. They are consequently coming in large numbers for employment on the public works, and are volunteering in hundreds to go into the colony, with their wives and children, in quest of employment as farm servants. These offers are being accepted, and we are marching them into the colony to places where they can find employment, feeding the men and their families by the way.

5. Assaults on Europeans appear to have ceased. There are now hardly any robberies committed in the colony, and the whole question appears to have resolved itself into one between the natives themselves.

6. Unprecedented and disastrous as this whole affair has been, and unaccountable as the delusion was, under the influence of which the Kaffirs have been led astray, there can I think be little doubt that great ultimate good will flow from it, unless some mistake is committed by the Government; an event which certainly appears quite possible, for when, amidst so much of novelty, confusion, and disaster, so many important decisions have to be hourly formed, it is difficult to avoid taking some wrong step. It is easy for those exposed to no trials of this nature to criticise from the midst of quiet and ease the steps which may be taken, but it is a very different thing to have continuously to act under circumstances of such extraordinary difficulty; and I feel sure that, viewed in this way, the prudence and vigour of the various authorities, both civil and military, in this country, under the recent trying circumstances, have been such as in every way to merit Her Majesty's commendation, indeed, without the able, prudent, and generous support which these authorities have

Enclosure 1.

11 March 1857.

CAVE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

afforded, Her Majesty's service could not have been carried on in the successful manner in which it hitherto has been.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) G. GREY.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c.

Enclosure 2.

P.S.—I have added a private letter just received from the magistrate with Kama, which chief is one of the leaders of the unbelievers, from which you will see how resolute the unbelievers have become, and how prepared Kama is at once to rout out a band of believers who are robbing the country in his neighbourhood, as also that the believers have become so downcast that another of their leading chiefs has to be watched to prevent his committing suicide.

G. GREY.

Encl. 1 in No. 24.

Enclosure 1 in No. 24.

SIR,

Dohne, March 11, 1857.

I HAVE the honour to report for your information that the surmise contained in my despatch-note of the 18th instant, respecting Sandilli's visit to the Umhaka, has proved to be incorrect.

Sandilli returned on the 8th instant in his kraal, not having gone further than Umhaka's location, and on the 9th instant he was with me.

Sandilli seems disposed to make the best of the state into which he has involved himself and his tribe. He has assured me, and those opposing the delusion, that he will do the utmost in his power to protect and support them, and to put down as far as possible all acts of robbery and aggression, whether on Kaffirs or Europeans. It yet remains to be seen how far Sandilli is in earnest, and how far he will be able to restrain his people, if in earnest.

In most parts of the country, when cattle have been destroyed, the utmost confusion and disorder reign. I have heard of 23 people in Krelli's country who have died either in defending or taking cattle. I have also heard of two cases of suicide by influential men in Krelli's country, caused by the cries of their children for food.

In the country west of the Kei I have heard of eight deaths from collision between captors and defenders of cattle; and this is only a beginning to a worse state of affairs.

To those who have no cattle left it is a matter of indifference whether the cattle they take belong to their own party or to those who have opposed the delusion, and the chiefs appear impotent in putting a stop to this state of things.

In a case of cattle taken a few days since from a Fingo, in Umhaka's location, by a H'lambe residing in the Gaika district, the cattle were stabled before Sandilli's eyes when he gave the order for their restoration.

It is the determination of those who have destroyed their cattle to reduce those who still retain property to the same state as themselves, and this they do not hesitate to tell them.

Kafir reports respecting the late interviews with Umhaka are contradictory and conflicting, but most agree in stating that Umhaka has informed the messengers sent that the new people say that they do not wish to be troubled with the importunity of the Kaffirs, and will make their appearance when they think fit.

Krelli has lately been going about among his people who still retain their cattle, making demands on them for cattle, of four or five from each person, and which demands they find themselves in no position to refuse. Krelli will thus in a short while be again wealthy in cattle.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) CHAS. BROWNLEE,  
Gaika Commissioner.

Encl. 2. in No. 24.

Enclosure 2 in No. 24.

MY DEAR SIR,

Middelburg, March 11, 1857.

KAMA sends word that he will rout out the people at once. He intends to do so to-morrow night.

I have made a prisoner to-day of a great thief, who has great influence among all the worst men on the southern side of the Keiskamma.

Mnti sent in to Kama to-day for money. He of course got none.

Lann has to be watched to prevent his committing suicide.

John Bark returned this day from Krelli's country. He says that two men have committed suicide before the faces of their starving children.

Should William Kama be at Fort Murray, please let him know that his father desires him to return with his party immediately, to assist him in routing out the Debe men.

Several men who have been believers have come in to-day to be registered. Two of them wanted to take guns, but I advised them to give them up to me, which they did at once.



I sent you statements respecting the highway robbery, which I think will warrant severe measures. In addition to what is stated, the same party have robbed Vabo's gardens of all his food.

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HOPE.

Yours, &c.  
(Signed) J. REEVE.

P.S.—I shall take upon myself to get a few rounds of ammunition from the officer commanding this post.

(Signed) J. R.

No. 25.

No. 25.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GAEY to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 34.)

King William's Town, March 20, 1857.

Received May 27, 1857.

SIR,

(Answered No 206, June 5, 1857, page 103.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit for your information the copy of a letter which has been addressed to me by the President of the Orange Free State, from which you will learn with regret that the government of that country is in a very distracted state.

2. Mr. Pretorius, the present President of the Trans-Vaal Republic, claims possession of the whole territory of the Orange Free State, in virtue of an alleged cession to his late father on the part of Her Majesty of all the lands claimed by the emigrants from this colony, and I think, from what I hear, that if a revolution takes place in the Free State Mr. Pretorius is likely to succeed in getting at least temporary possession of that country.

3. He is the same person who is at present trying to take possession of a large portion of the colony of Natal, in the manner detailed in my Despatch No. 111,\* of the 1st November 1856, and it is impossible to consider the questions now raised by the President of the Orange Free State apart from those which have been raised by the government of the colony of Natal. \* Page 53.

4. The government of the Orange Free State allege that Mr. Pretorius has been tampering with the native tribes in one part of South Africa, while also they allege that Mr. Pretorius and the Trans-Vaal government are in the habit of dealing in the children of the natives in other parts of South Africa, as apprentices up to the age of twenty-five; that they capture these children in their wars, or procure them by other means.

5. The government of the Orange Free State, oppressed by so many difficulties, request me,—

Firstly, to warn Moshesh against attending to the persuasions of Mr. Pretorius.

Secondly, to notify by proclamation that Mr. Pretorius' pretensions to right of property in the Orange Free State are entirely unfounded.

Thirdly, to stop the sale of gunpowder to the Trans-Vaal Republic until the government of that country shall have disavowed all connection with Mr. Pretorius; and, lastly, they request me to ascertain whether Her Majesty's Government would be willing to enter into a treaty of alliance with the government of the Free State, and what would probably be the stipulations of such a treaty.

6. As to the two first points, I have replied that nothing has at present transpired which makes me think it necessary to caution Moshesh against listening to Mr. Pretorius, as I have not as yet any reason to believe Moshesh will interfere in the matter, and that I think it equally unnecessary to issue any proclamation regarding Mr. Pretorius's pretensions to the Free State, as nothing has occurred which can be construed into a cession by Her Majesty to his late father of the territories which he now claims.

7. To the third point, I have replied, that whilst the convention with the Trans-Vaal Republic stands I do not conceive that I can, without the sanction of Her Majesty's Government, prevent the sale of arms and ammunition to that Republic.

8. To the last point I have replied, that I will at once apply for the instructions of Her Majesty's Government as to whether and upon what terms it is disposed to enter into a treaty of alliance with the Orange Free State.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE

9. I am unable to offer an opinion at present as to what course Her Majesty's Government should pursue under existing circumstances in regard to the Orange Free State, as I have always regarded our retirement from that country, and the principles on which it was effected, as a great misfortune to South Africa. I believe it to have been the cause of all the recent difficulties and expenses to which we have been subjected. I am not aware whether or not Her Majesty's Government would be disposed to retrace this step, but I think, from the terms of the letter from the government of the Free State, and from other communications which I have seen, that the inhabitants of that country would be gladly united with this colony under a federal union, leaving to Her Majesty, if such a thing was desired, the appointment of the Governor, together with any of the principal officers, and I believe that it is by a federal union alone these South African Colonies can be made so strong and so united in policy and action that they can support themselves against the native tribes.

I have, &amp;c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

No. 26.

No. 26.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir G. GREY to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 36.)

King William's Town, March 25, 1857.

(Received May 27, 1857.)

SIR,

(Answered No. 211, June 12, 1857, page 105.)

No. 293.  
20 March 1857.  
With Sub-Encls.

I HAVE the honour to enclose for your consideration the copy of a letter I have received from Colonel Maclean, the Chief Commissioner of British Kaffraria, upon the subject of the probable share which Moshesh has had in influencing the chiefs in this part of the country to act in the manner they recently have done, with the obvious intention of bringing on a war.

2. As Colonel Maclean was in the best position for collecting information on this subject, I have from time to time transmitted to him such information regarding it as reached me. His letter must therefore be regarded as embodying the greater part of the evidence on which any grounds of suspicion against Mosesh rest.

I have, &amp;c.

Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

Encl. in No. 26.

Enclosure in No. 26.

(No. 293.)

SIR,

Fort Murray, March 20, 1857.

BEING about to submit to your Excellency a report upon the conduct of the Kaffir chiefs during the past nine months, together with the inferences which may be arrived at, from these and other considerations, as to the nature and tendency of the present delusion, and the aim of its promoters, I deem it a fitting opportunity, with reference to Moshesh's denial of intercourse with Krel and the Amakosens, to gather into one view the information I have been able to obtain as to such intercourse, together with the conclusions which may be drawn therefrom.

2. The ill success of the Kaffirs in all their wars with us, and the gradual tendency they had shown to form combinations against us, led me, during and after the war of 1850, to anticipate that hereafter, for the sake of increasing their strength, and for the safety of their cattle and non-combatants, this policy of combination would become a settled and main aim with them. In accordance with this, they have since then sought, as detailed in my reports of and after September 1854, to ally themselves with the Fingoes, and at the same time with Faku, and with the Bashee Tembas, with the latter of whom they were then and have since been at war.

3. Anticipating such things, it was therefore natural to anticipate that an alliance would also be sought with Moshesh, whose reputation as a successful chief had been greatly increased throughout the whole of the native tribes from this to Natal, as being the great chief who alone had beaten the English in his encounter with us at Berea, and whose position on our border offered the obvious advantage in war of dividing our forces along a very extended and divided front. And having, previously to Sir George Cathcart's expedition against Moshesh, expressed my opinion against it, I, on that officer's return, communicated to him my fears on this head, informing him that I had received from natives an account of the collision at Berea, and had disbelieved it until it was confirmed two days afterwards by an express from the camp.

Native reports generally. Annexure 1, 3, &amp; 12. Report of Natal native Commissioner ad finem.

4. Other alliances having been, as above stated, since sought, it is much more probable than otherwise that a shrewd people like the Kaffirs would not overlook so promising an ally as Moshesh, and that Moshesh, seeing this, would endeavour to rouse their evident tendencies into action, whenever it suited him to do so.

Before, however, entering upon the proofs of these things, I would remark that Moshesh's denial of intercourse, as given in the following words, "The name of Krelli is known to me, but he is my enemy,—he killed in war one of my brothers, and I have had no intercourse with him for more than three years," would be liable to be misconstrued, were it not explained that (as I have learnt from two distinct sources) no collision had occurred between Moshesh's people and the Amaxos since Gacela, the father of the Chief Toise, and living on this side the Kei, made, upwards of 16 years ago, a foray into Basutu land; and Mr. Brownlee also states, that since Kama (in 1843) asked for a country from Moshesh, the Amaxosa and Basutus have lived in uninterrupted peaceful intercourse with one another.

It is difficult also to understand why Moshesh should limit his denial of intercourse to that period (underlined in his letter) of more than three years, during which there really had been more intercommunication than before, unless on the supposition that he wished thereby to conceal more effectually his increased reputation and intercourse with other tribes since Barea, or unless he desired to hint incidentally that since we have made peace with him and with the frontier tribes he has acted loyally and been well disposed towards us. Lastly, his affectation of ignorance in saying, "I am a stranger to what passes in Krelli's country, and my missionary is one of those who has informed me (from a Cape journal)," &c., betrays that affectation to say one at all acquainted with the native tribes.

5. The first intercourse of which we have knowledge occurred previous to the period of three years, during the war, when messengers from Moshesh visited Sandili in the Amatole, about the year 1852; this being probably with the view of obtaining such information as to the state of affairs here as should guide Moshesh in his intercourse with Her Majesty's Assistant Commissioners. The detail of circumstances occurring during this visit proves the correctness of the information.

6. Immediately after Barea, Moshesh sent messengers to Krelli, to inform him that he had beaten the English, and the Amaxos were thence led to expect succour from Moshesh; and I have before stated that I heard the account of Barea two days before it reached us by mounted express.

7. About 2½ or 3 years ago, vizt., after peace was proclaimed, Krelli sent twice to Moshesh, once by Matomela, son of Gouveni, and again by Cato, son of Kosi; and I have heard a native rumour that soon after Barea the chiefs had sent to inquire what charms Moshesh had used to make himself so strong against the English.

8. In October 1854, the Tembu chiefs Soye and Ungangeni gave information to the Trans-Keian resident, which, though exaggerated as to the danger and its imminency, conveyed, I believe, the true wishes and intentions of the Kaffir chiefs, and the plans they had proposed (at least for deliberation). Part of this was that Xoxo, a brother of Krelli, said to be prophesying, sent to Moshesh for charms to make them strong in war; and it was added that Fadana, a Tembu chief, meeting the messengers on their return, captured one of them, and made him confess this. The period it will be remembered was that of the attempted alliance with the Fingoes, when, according to the Chief Umkai's dying statement, war was intended, and when, according to other sources, alliances with the Tembus and with the Pondos were also sought after.

9. On the 2d June 1855 I received information that a messenger had shortly before arrived at Krelli's from Moshesh, urging the advantages and likelihood of success of a combination of the black races against the white man. This information was received from a counsellor of Krelli's, through another chief's counsellor, from whom I have received at other times correct information, and who at the time that he gave this was probably anxious to restore himself in our good opinion, he having been engaged with his chief in a case of witchcraft ending in a man's death. It is further corroborated by his statements that he was ignorant of Krelli's answer, and that this answer was taken back by Matomela, son of Gouveni, whom from various statements we know to be Krelli's chosen messenger with Moshesh.

10. In March 1856 I heard from the Free State that Moshesh was sending or about to send messengers to Krelli. In April and May, while in the Pondo country beyond the Kei, I heard from native sources that messengers from Moshesh had been to Krelli and other chiefs, including Damas (Taku's eldest son), who has authority over all Pondos this side the Umzumvubu, and that, as the ostensible nature of the visit of these latter messengers precluded their going elsewhere, they on their return lost their way, and did not find it again until they had reached the great place of the Amabaca. I have since heard from another and reliable source that Krelli about this time received from Moshesh, by his return messenger, Matomela, son of Gouveni, twenty head of bang-horned oxen, this being Moshesh's first present to Krelli. That messengers passed at this time between the two chiefs is again corroborated by two reports received by Lieutenant-General Sir James Jackson in April 1856, one from British Kaffraria, and the other from near Moshesh's country, both stating that Moshesh would join the Kaffirs.

These reports, though exaggerated as to the warlike spirit of the people and their preparation for war, conveyed, I believe, like the Tembu information of 1854, the wishes and

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Moshesh's letter,  
8 Oct. 1856, commu-  
nicated by his Excel-  
lency to Chief Com.  
Letter, 8 Oct. 1856.

ANNEXURE 1 & 2.  
Mr. Brownlee's letter,  
Annexure No. 1,  
Letter, 6 Oct. 1856.

Same letter.

ANNEXURE No. 1.

ANNEXURE No. 1.

ANNEXURE No. 1.

ANNEXURE No. 2.

ANNEXURE No. 4.

ANNEXURE No. 5.

ANNEXURE No. 5.

ANNEXURE No. 6.

ANNEXURE No. 7.

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Annexure No. 8.

Annexure No. 5.

Annexure No. 9.

Gaika Comm<sup>o</sup> Report,  
24 Sept. 1856.Annexures Nos. 18,  
& 11.

Annexure No. 12.

Also Annexure No. 8,  
11 January.

Annexure No. 13.

I heard up the country  
that this was the  
direct and common  
course.(Info<sup>o</sup>) J.M.

Annexure No. 14.

Annexure No. 1.

Annexure No. 1.

Annexure No. 4.

Annexures Nos. 5, &amp; 6.

Annexure No. 8.

Annexure No. 6.

27th Sept. 1856.

intentions of the leaders, and, though premature, like the excitement among the Kaffirs in September and October 1854, they probably grew out of rumours consequent on these messages, or out of a partial cozing out of their purport, and of that of May 1855. Lastly, as a fifth corroboration, is found another statement by a Fingoe chief's son on a visit to Moshesh's country, that at that time I was beyond the Kei two different messages were received by Moshesh from Krelli, through the messenger, Matomela.

11. Again, a European from beyond the Kei, whose information I have at other times found correct, and who says that this was obtained from a reliable source, states that 20 horsemen arrived at Krelli's great place from Moshesh some time in August, and the same person also informed me that somewhere about September or October 25 horses came down as presents to the Bashee Tembu chiefs, these being probably intended as an indirect inducement to them to make common cause with the allies, and to help the negotiations for peace, which then or shortly afterwards were entered into by Krelli and these Tembus.

12. About the middle of September Krelli stated, that by order of the prophet he was to send news of the great wonders that were to happen to Moshesh and other chiefs, and to tell them to kill also, and in accordance with this I have heard that Matomela was sent.

13. By information derived by Mr. Austin, superintendent of native reserve, Wittebergen, from two independent sources, it would seem that about the latter half of September messengers came down secretly from Moshesh. Moshesh's letter of denial is dated the 6th October. It is therefore probable from this and the foregoing paragraph that at the very time of his denial Krelli's messengers were with him and his with Krelli.

14. Krelli's men also told Mr. Austin's Fingoe informant, that Krelli kept up a constant intercourse with Moshesh, and the reasons given were, that "Moshesh is the great chief of all the native tribes, because he is the only Kaffir chief that has beaten the English, and therefore they looked up to him."

15. According to a very remarkable statement, made on most reliable authority, Matomela, in the latter part of November 1856, was sent by Krelli to Moshesh, the belief being to ask for land away from the white man, so as to enable Krelli to combine with Moshesh, and, as the statement further implies, so as to be freed from incumbrance while fighting against us.

16. Mr. Warner, the Tambookie agent, also believes that a constant communication is carried on, although the secrecy with which it is done, and the secrecy maintained by all aware of it, is so great that he can learn nothing more definite than a report received from two distinct sources who themselves fully believe it, that to avoid detection these messengers cross the mountains at the back of the Tembu country, and go direct to the prophet. Unjuza also, according to the Chief Toise, though I should have doubted the truth of this were the rest of the statement not confirmed in two particulars by subsequent events, stated, in June 1856, that Krelli had frequent communications with Moshesh of a nature hostile to us.

17. The fact of intercourse thus established, its political intent cannot be doubted. The secrecy adopted, the circumstances of both chiefs, and the aims and tendencies of Krelli and the Amaxosas, as shown by their previous history, fully prove this, so also do the times and origin of this intercourse. The stealing of the horses of the messengers of 1850 by Sandili's own relatives proves that the Kaffirs then expected nothing from Moshesh, and that these messengers had come down for their own purposes, and were probably considered as of those whom Goshu had formerly plundered.

After, however, that Moshesh had sent to announce his encounter with us at Barea, Krelli, by two and it may be by more messages, commenced a close intercourse with him. In September 1854, when the Fingoe alliance was improvised, messengers, evidently official, were sent to Moshesh as well as to other neighbouring chiefs. The purport of the message of May 1855 cannot be mistaken, though I am not aware of its immediate cause.

18. But it is to the embassies of the early part of last year that I would particularly draw attention, for while these are the most fully proved they are at the same time the most important. The generality of these embassies, they having been sent to all other chiefs beyond the Kei, the frequency of those passing between Moshesh and Krelli, the fact of Moshesh having for the first time made a present to Krelli, and the secrecy observed (for those, so well corroborated, I have obtained but one proof within British Kaffraria, and that perhaps only because the man had a clue beforehand, and the Gaika Commissioner, and the Tambookie agent, though they used their utmost endeavours, have failed in learning anything of these or any later messengers,) all these things prove their importance, as do the two facts, first, that at this time the Free State were preparing to attack Witte, in which, in their and in Moshesh's opinion, he, the latter, would sooner or later be involved, and, secondly, that it was in May that the prophecies of Umhlakaza and his niece were first heard of in the Gabeke country.

19. I consider also that the proofs of constant intercourse, taken together with the periods of the rise and fall of the excitement among the Amaxosa tribes being coincident with the approach or delay of war in Moshesh's country, prove not only that the intercourse had reference to supporting war, but prove, as does the preceding paragraph, that this excitement was in its origin political, and originated with Moshesh and Krelli.

20. As noticed by your Excellency in your message to Moshesh, the excitement among these tribes continued to increase until early in August, when it declined, to revive again in September, the decline being coincident with the success of the expedition from the

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Free State against Witzie, with the non-involvement of Moshesh in it, and with the delay given by the Free State to Moshesh in certain questions pending between them; while the September re-excitement was coincident with the close of this delay; and it is farther to be remarked, that although the prophecies of Umhlakaza were to have been accomplished at and after the full moon in July, and more certainly at the same period (16th) in August, and that although from the spread and the increase of the excitement the belief in their accomplishment at this last-named period was so strong and general that for the first time the native workmen throughout the province left the public works on receiving their pay at the end of July, and though as the time drew nigh the Gulekas gave in, though as a body they had before disbelieved, yet Krelli's expressed doubts and public message to the prophet, as to whether they should continue to kill, commenced at the close of July, and by the 11th of August the excitement and cattle killing had in a marked manner subsided among the Galekas, Qunukwebes, and some of the H'Lamhi tribes, who had all greatly followed the orders issued by the prophet and his abettors, and who after September continued to do so, notwithstanding the many delays as each period of fulfilment drew nigh. I conceive that it is impossible that these things should have occurred had the delusion been merely fanatical.

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21. From September onwards the excitement was kept up by the predictions of the prophet and the orders of the chiefs, until the beginning of December, the moon of that month being named as the time of fulfilment. Accordingly as November closed in cattle killing increased over the whole country, and with it the excitement and expectation of a crisis. These things were noticed, and reported as alarming, in several locations; but the intentions of Krelli, and the perturbed state of the natives generally, are best shown by the statement of the Chief Antu, half-brother of Sandilli, of Kona, right-hand son of Macomo, and by the report of a confidential conversation with Krelli, all annexed to this letter, as well as by the statement of the prophet, widely circulated throughout the country, that already the new people had destroyed the "Geyser" off the Kei mouth, as making the pari passu march of events.

I add the following extract from a letter from a resident in the Free State, dated 25th November 1856, "Our political affairs are now beginning to assume a much darker hue than hitherto. It has transpired that at the last meeting of the Volksraad permission was given to the President to declare war with Moshesh whenever he liked, consequently we expect it about the 10th of next month (full moon), as this is the time given by the last deputation to Moshesh to deliver out all compensation claims, and which I have no doubt he will be unable to comply with."

22. Towards the middle of December there was a partial lull, but towards the close of the month it recommenced, an assembly having been convened at Butterworth by Krelli, to which he had called the chiefs of British Kaffria, ostensibly to see these wonders appear. The excitement was further increased, first, by a very widely-spread rumour, and then by messengers from Krelli to Umhala, Sandilli, Macomo, and the rest, that Moshesh had already received his cattle, and the unbelievers been destroyed. At this meeting, however, delays were again sought, the prophet stating on the 4th of January that the moon of December had been the time appointed, but that as the unbelievers by non-obedience had delayed it, the new people were now dispersed, but might perhaps be recalled by the full moon, 10th, or if not then, at new moon on the 24th. Krelli left Butterworth on the 5th, saying, as is reported on good authority, that he could not remain, as some of them wished, until the 10th, as five messengers from Moshesh, and with whom he wished to talk, were there at his great place. On the 24th he returned to Butterworth to a meeting which he had convened of Galekas and deputies from the chiefs of British Kaffria. He left again on the 9th February, the excitement being kept up and increased during the whole of that time, and beyond the middle of February, by the strenuous exertions, as appears to me, of the prophet and of the chiefs. During this period it was still doubtful what would happen in Moshesh's country, and I believe it is still doubtful, although the cattle sent in by Moshesh have been provisionally accepted. How far the continuance of this provisional acceptance went towards inducing a belief in a peaceful termination I know not; but here, the cattle being killed, and the sowing season having passed away, the people became disheartened at the constant delays, and I believe it was found impossible to keep up an excitement, which had been prolonged through January and February only by the repeated orders of the prophet and chiefs.

23. Since then we have heard that a meeting of Galekas was held at Krelli's great place, for the same ostensible purpose as before, but its influence was not felt this side of the Kei. Apparently this last meeting was coincident with the news of some difficulties between the Free State and the Trans-Vaal Boers.

24. As to the expectation of aid from Moshesh, which the Kaffirs on this frontier have had since the termination of the last war, it is unnecessary to do more than allude to what Mr. Brownlee, in his letter No. 33 of the 4th May, calls "the old native reports of assistance from Moshesh." That it was also expected during the past excitement is evident. In September Krelli announced publicly, that by orders of the prophet Moshesh was to be informed of what was going on, and, as above stated, he sent a messenger accordingly, and by this being hushed about drew public attention that way, as may be seen in a garbled statement of the Chief Jan Tatzue.

Extracts from letters  
from Major Gawler  
and Mr. Brownlee,  
Annexure No. 17.

Annexure No. 18.

Letter from Mr. Brown-  
lee, 24 Sept. 1856.

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Annexure No. 11.  
Annexure No. 17.

Annexure No. 13.

Afterwards, in December, there was a wide-spread report that a prophet had commanded Moshesh to kill his cattle, and that he was killing in consequence, followed immediately afterwards by a message from Krelli, that Moshesh had already been rewarded, and the unbelievers destroyed. This I have not placed among the proofs of Moshesh's intercourse with Krelli, as the latter may have forged it for his own ends. Early in December also an unconfirmed report got abroad that one of Moshesh's sons had come down in person to Krelli. And lastly, the increased excitement resulting from the statement of a Galeka woman just returned from Basuto land, that Moshesh's army was already out, shows (especially if taken with the latter statement in Annexures 13 and 18) what was really expected, and towards whom they really looked.

And I have now only, in conclusion, and after reviewing more fully than I had done before the various matters adduced, to express my strong conviction that in this delusion, which has caused so much and such prolonged excitement here, superstition was made a means to a political end, and that end was combined war on the white races; that Moshesh has, at all events since the Barea, kept up a political intercourse with these and other tribes; and that he has favoured and by direct acts influenced the delusion, and the acts of Krelli and the other chiefs, if he has not for his own purposes revived and by his suggestions attempted to bring into action the scheme of combination against us.

Happily for us, the course of events, and the self-interests of the actors in them, and our continued neutrality, have so marred their plans, that the chance of combination and its advantages are greatly lessened, and the distress of the frontier tribes (they having staked all on the casualty of war) is now so great as to lead to a hope that without war the Kafir nationality and polity may be so injured as to lead to better results than we could heretofore have expected, and that if war occur it will be partial, ill supported by the people, and of less duration, and be attended with greater and more decided results than any of our previous wars with these people.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) JOHN MACLEAN,  
Chief Commissioner.His Excellency Sir George Grey, K.C.B.,  
Governor and High Commissioner.

## Annexure No. 1.

Sir,

Dolne, November 5, 1856.

WITH reference to the statement of the Chief Moshesh to his Excellency the Governor, to the effect that he had had no intercourse with Krelli for the last three years, in consequence of enmity between the chiefs caused by Krelli's having in war put to death a near relation of Moshesh, I beg to state that the reason assigned by Moshesh has no foundation in fact, there having been no collision between Moshesh and the Kaffirs for at least 16 years.

So far as I am acquainted with the intercourse of Moshesh with the Kaffirs, it is as follows:

About 1838 Gasein made two forays against Moshesh, in which he captured many cattle and sheep, and killed some of Moshesh's people.

Shortly after this, Umyaluna, the son of Khabalee, and Qamba, the son of H'Lamhi, went, with a number of their people, and settled in Moshesh's country. They were kindly received, and well treated; but after a time the Basutos fell upon them by night, murdering almost the whole of them, and taking all their cattle; Quamba and Umyaluna among the killed.

About 1841 or 1842, Kama left the Gunukuelei tribe, and obtained permission from Moshesh to settle on the Tyumbou or Kmal River. Mani, I think, settled there, but I do not believe that Kama personally occupied the country given to him by Moshesh.

From the time that Kama began his intercourse with Moshesh, friendly communications were established between the Kaffirs and Moshesh, and have uninterruptedly existed to the present time, without the least collision or ill-feeling on either side.

During the war of 1850, Moshesh sent an embassy to Sandilli, and while with Sandilli in the Amntole, Mtana, Sandilli's brother, and Seti, the son of the chief counsellor, stole five of the horses of Moshesh's messengers, and Quotshi, the son of Siku, was employed to search for these horses, and recover them for the owners.

Immediately after the engagement at Barea, Moshesh sent a deputation to Krelli, to inform him that he had conquered the English; and the war with the Kaffirs not then having been brought to a close, Krelli fully expected succour from Moshesh.

After the conclusion of the war, Krelli twice sent messengers to Moshesh. On one occasion the sons of Gocini were sent, and on another, Cata, the son of Kosi, was Krelli's messenger.

I believe that after this messengers had been down from Moshesh, but of this I cannot speak with any certainty.

As reported to you in my letter 96 of 24th September, Krelli sent messengers to the chiefs west of the Koi, to inform them that he had received orders to inform all the chiefs, Moshesh included, of the orders he had received at Umhlakaza's.

I believe that Krelli did send messengers to Moshesh; but on this point I have not been able to receive definite information. About a month after, however, and when messengers

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from Moshesh should have returned, I received information that Napakade, the supreme ruler living far in the north, had sent orders to his subordinate Uhlanga and Seifubasibanzi, to make an open manifestation to the Kaffirs of the truth of what had been asserted by Umlakaza. This Napakade was supposed to be Moshesh, and this is also my opinion. See letter No. 107, 22d October 1856.

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Colonel Maclean,  
Chief Commissioner, Fort Murray.

(Signed) CHARLES BROWNLEE,  
Gaika Commissioner.

## Annexure No. 2.

Information received from a trustworthy and intelligent Native.

SOMEWHAT before the war of 1835, Umnialuzi, a son of Raralie and uncle of Umhala, went up to the Basutu country on a marauding expedition. In a fight that took place, a petty Basutu chief named Molitsuni was killed; but Umnialuzi was defeated, and himself, with the greater number of his men, killed.

Afterwards ten men of the Amambalee went up thither to obtain cattle, but were all killed.

About two years after the war of 1836, Gasela (father of the Chief Toise) went up on a similar expedition to Umnialuzi's, and attacked Untyingimna, a Basutu chief. He returned successfully with 200 head of cattle. Toise and myself some of Gasela's party. This was the last collision between us and the Basutus.

## Annexure No. 3.

Information communicated by the Tamhookee chiefs Joyi and Umgangeni to Mr. B. M. Shaw, British Resident, Trans-Keayan Tribes, October 16, 1854.

THEY state they have every reason to believe that a general combination of all the Kaffir tribes has been agreed upon, with the view of bringing about another war. On this point they spoke positively and without hesitation; but they acknowledged they were in some doubt as to the precise time fixed upon, which they state will be regulated by circumstances. They added, however, most impressively, that the event will soon transpire.

They informed me further, as an additional link in the chain of evidence, that the Chief Xexo, a son of Hintza and brother to Krel, has most recently started into existence as a prophet, and with this view has taken up the mantle of Umlangeni, with whom he declares he has constant spiritual intercourse. His prophecies are stated to be of the same injurious tendency as those of Umlangeni; but at present the precise terms employed by him are scrupulously concealed, until Krel visits him personally, which he is expected to do ere long.

They state that during the last month Xexo despatched several men to Moshesh's country, to procure medicine (iyena) for the purpose of incantation, and otherwise rendering the Kaffir invulnerable. These men have just returned with a considerable quantity of medicine, and were met on their return from the Basutu country by the Tembu Chief Fadana, who was proceeding with some people to Nonesi's location.

Fadana feeling somewhat suspicious of their movements, as they endeavoured to avoid him, and not knowing at the time who they were, fired on them, and severely wounded one of the party, who consequently fell into his hands, the others escaping.

On being interrogated and threatened, he made a full confession of the object and result of their visit to Moshesh's country, as already stated.

It is rumoured that all the frontier tribes, including Krel, are resolutely determined on making war as soon as practicable, and it is understood, in order to precipitate the same, that thieving in British Kaffraria and the colony on a large scale is to be encouraged; and if that is not attended with the desired effect, then to murder one or two Europeans on the highways and elsewhere, in the hope of inducing the Government to take the initiative, and thus afford them a pretext for resistance, with the consequent and desired result of war.

(Signed) M. H. SHAW,  
British Resident, Trans-Keayan Tribes.

## Annexure No. 4.

Information received from \_\_\_\_\_, a Counsellor of  
Fort Murray, June 2, 1855.

ABOUT a fortnight ago a message was sent by Moshesh to Krel, conveyed through a petty Tambookie chief named Tyali, a son of Gobozi, residing on the Orange River, to the effect that he, Moshesh, had with only a small portion of his nation, under one of his sons, defeated the English troops at the Beres; and, had he mustered all his forces on that occasion, he might have destroyed the whole of the troops then engaged against him. He therefore wished to come to an understanding with Krel, as regards a combination of

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Kaffirs and Basutus against the white government, as he, Moshesh, was of opinion that if such could be carried with effect the white government could with ease be conquered.

It was arranged by Moshesh that he and Krelli should first decide the question, previous to the minor Kaffir chiefs being made acquainted with the arrangement.

Moshesh's messengers returned, accompanied by a son of Goceni, a counsellor of Krelli, and one or two others, charged with a message from Krelli to Moshesh; but I have not yet ascertained Krelli's reply.

I will on the return of Krelli's emissaries (shortly expected) endeavour to ascertain the message sent by Krelli, and the reply received by him from Moshesh.

The foregoing information I received from one of Krelli's counsellors who was on a visit to my kraal, and who lives not far from Krelli's great place. He has promised to let me know anything further he may hear about this matter.

## Annexure No. 5.

Extracted from a Letter from Chief Commissioner to his Excellency the High Commissioner, dated Fort Murray, June 15, 1856.

ABOUT a month previous to my departure I received private information that an embassy was then on its way to Krelli from the Basutu Chief Moshesh, and I directed Mr. Brownlee to be on the watch. Also, while up the country, I heard from various sources that Moshesh had communicated with the chiefs across the Kei, and with the Pondos, on pretence of obtaining some herh near the coast believed to have the power of causing cows to give more milk. This embassy went to Faku's eldest son, Dumas, the chief of the Pondos west of the Umzumvubu.

I afterward learned that these people, when on the way back, missed, as they said, their road, and found themselves at Jumba's, chief of the Basas, once a powerful tribe, but now a mere remnant of what they were.

I nevertheless neither saw nor heard any sign of excited feeling amongst the various tribes; neither did Joyi, regent of the Bashee Temhas, nor Krelli, show any inclination to make peace one with the other.

The only rumour I heard which might in any way excite suspicion was that people had been sent to see four men who had come out of the sea, and who had told them to kill their cattle, as some great thing was coming on the land, when cattle would be of no more use.

## Annexure No. 6.

Information communicated to the Chief Commissioner by a trustworthy native just returned from a visit to Umhlakaza, Fort Murray, August 18, 1856.

I SAW Umhlakaza. He denies all that has been said of him, and says he would like to know by whom so many lies have been spread. Could people not see (pointing to his cattle in his kraal) that he had not killed his cattle, and how could he direct others to do what he had not done himself.

About the time that Mactan went to Faku's country, 20 bulls (bang-horned) were received by Krelli from Moshesh as a present, being, I believe, the first cattle Krelli has ever received from that chief. These cattle were brought by Krelli's return messenger from Moshesh, Matomela, son of Gocveni. At the same time I heard that Faku sent 60 bulls to Moshesh, as a token of a peace and friendship between them.

## Annexure No. 7.

Extracts from Information communicated to his Honour Lieut.-General Sir James Jackson, K.C.B., K.H., Lieut.-Governor, Eastern Province, Graham's Town, April 14, 1856.

I WENT on the next day, and slept at night at the ox kraal. They told me that a Fingoe had arrived a short time before from the Crail River. He told them that it was the intention of the people over the river (Moshesh) to join with Sandilli. Kama's sons, Delina, Pato's son, and all begin to make war at the same day.

Moshesh told Sandilli that he must ask for his land back, and if refused it must then begin the war, and that he, Moshesh, would also begin by attacking the Boers on his frontier.

They say that Lynx and Gaika, Umhangeni, are fighting against the English over the water (in the Crimea), and that it is a lie which has been told about the Russians being a white nation. Their opinion is that they are all blacks, and were formerly Kaffir warriors who have died, or have been killed in the various wars against the colony.

It is also the opinion of the Kaffirs that the colony will receive no more helps from England, and that the colonists will be very soon left to fight for themselves.

I then went to Nossington, and they told me the same story.

I went to Fort White to visit my friends, and when there a man from Toise's tribe came there. He was a Pakali, and an old friend of mine. He told me that war was resolved



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upon by Moshesh, Sandilli, Kama's sons, Pato's son, Delima, and several of the other tribes. Krelu was, however, undecided, as the Tambookies are going to sit still, and he would be in a dangerous position, if they, together with the Queen's Town farmers, were to attack him. Moshesh had sent word to Sandilli that if he began he (Moshesh) would support him, but that Sandilli must first ask for the ground which had been taken from him, and if the Government refused he must then begin.

Sandilli said that Moshesh must begin first, and when he heard that the war was going on he will begin too. Each was, however, distrustful of the other not beginning at the same time.

I have received letters from my brother, who is now in Kaffirland, telling me that he is convinced from what he sees and hears that the Guika Kaffirs are preparing for war, and that they calculate on receiving support from Moshesh and Faku. My brother thinks that the time fixed on for commencing hostilities is when their crops, which they are now gathering, are harvested. He says that messengers from Moshesh are now in Sandilli's country.

## Annexure No. 8.

Information this day communicated to the Chief Commissioner from a reliable native source, Fort Murray, November 8, 1856.

I HEARD yesterday from a son of the late Fingoo Chief Iakweni, who left the Fort Peddie settlement on a visit to the Basutu country about the time Maclean was at Faku's (five months ago), and who has lately returned, that while there two messages were at different times received by Moshesh from Krelu, conveyed by Matomela, a son of Gociveni, to the effect that Krelu wished Moshesh to make room for him in his country, so that Moshesh could assist Krelu against the white government. Moshesh replied that he had no land to give away; that even had he land he would not feel disposed to give it to a thieving people like the Kaffirs, for living so near, and not being so well supplied with cattle and food as his people were, they would be continually committing thefts on them, and thus would bring on disputes and unpleasantness which Moshesh wished to avoid.

January 11, 1857 (the same source).

That a Tambookie residing on the Orange River had arrived in Toise's location, and states that no messengers have ever been sent by Moshesh to Krelu. Messengers have, however, frequently crossed the Orange River from Krelu to Moshesh, asking the latter for land, which Moshesh always refused.

## Annexure No. 9.

Memo.

ON the 25th August 1856 I received intelligence from a European residing in Krelu's country, and one well acquainted with and liked by the chief and people, that shortly before twenty horsemen from the Basutu country had arrived at Krelu's great place. This intelligence the trader stated and still states can be relied upon.

The same person has since informed me, that about September last twenty-three horses were sent down by Moshesh as presents to some of the Bashee Tembu chiefs. They passed through Joye's country, who got some of them, and the rest were sent down the Bashee.

Of this having occurred the trader is positive, saying he knows and could describe some of the horses.

(Signed) JOHN MACLEAN,  
Chief Commissioner.

## Annexure No. 10.

Extract from information this day communicated to the Chief Commissioner, Fort Murray, October 26, 1856.

THAT a counsellor of Krelu, in charge of one of Krelu's cattle kraals, acquainted informant that about six weeks ago Matomela, son of Gociveni, was sent by Krelu to Moshesh, to make known to the latter the prophecies of Umhlakaza. That Matomela returned about three weeks ago with Moshesh's reply; purport not yet ascertained.

That last moon six messengers arrived at Krelu's from Faku, for the purpose of ascertaining the truth of Umhlakaza's sayings. That Krelu accompanied Faku's messenger to the prophet, who, not satisfying Faku's people as to the truth of his assertions, left, and returned and told Faku that they had seen nothing which had been predicted. Upon which Faku gave orders to all his people to cultivate their gardens as usual, and not to destroy their cattle, as Umhlakaza was the same as the former false prophets.

## Annexure No. 11.

Information this day communicated to the Chief Commissioner by the Chief Ian Tzatzoe, Fort Murray, October 15, 1856.

THAT it is reported across the Kei that Adam, our first father, has come upon the earth, accompanied by God and two sons of God, together with a numerous new people, who are at present invisible to all, except such as visit the prophet Umhlakaza for the purpose of seeing them. That Adam has lately proceeded to Moshesh for the purpose of requesting Moshesh to direct his people to destroy all their cattle and corn, and not to cultivate. That similar messages have been taken by the two sons of God, one to Krel'i by the eldest named, Lipungupungu (reckless), the other to Faku by the second son, Napakade (everlasting).

## Annexure No. 12.

Extract of Letter from Mr. Austin, Superintendant Native Reserve, Wittebergen, October 28, 1856.

I NEG further to add, that this morning I had an opportunity of speaking to one of the pardoned rebels residing at the Hottentot Camp, under Hermanns, near Morris, from whom I also heard that such men had been seen by him at Morris', and that he asked where they were going to, and that he was told that they were sent by Moshesh as special messengers to Kaffirland, but did not hear the purport of their message.

The Hottentot Solomon, to whom I referred, also told me that he had not heard of their return, and believes that they are still in Kaffirland. I believe that the departure of Moshesh's messengers was not generally known by the natives up here, and that it has been kept a great secret.

## Annexure No. 12a.

Office of the Justice of the Peace, Wittebergen, October 28, 1856.

CAROLUS Umhlatsha, a Fingoe residing in the Wittebergen Native Reserve, maketh oath and saith, about two months ago I obtained a pass to proceed to Queen's Town for the purpose of visiting my friends. I returned on Saturday week. About four weeks ago, while I was at Queen's Town, I saw two Kaffirs, messengers sent by Krel'i to Mr. Shepetone, to ask a present and also the news. I spoke to Krel'i's men, and asked them the news of their country. They told me various things about Umhlakaza, and also that they were killing all their cattle, and amongst other things they told me that when they left home they left six Basutos at Krel'i's kraal, who had been sent by Moshesh to their chief to ask the news, and also to see if it was true that the Kaffirs were killing their cattle, and if it was true what Umhlakaza had been telling their people.

They also told me that Moshesh was very anxious to know what it all meant, as he (Moshesh) wished to make himself ready for anything that may happen. Krel'i's men also told me that their chief said to Moshesh's men that all was true, and that many of their great people had risen from their graves, and that amongst others Hintza, their great chief, was one, and had been seen. Krel'i's men also told me that the Basutos had told Krel'i that there was something of the same kind in their country; that a child had been born, and that it was an infant one day, and the next it was transformed into an aged man. Krel'i's men also said that their chief kept up a regular communication with Moshesh, and that the reason why that was done was that Moshesh is the great chief of all the native tribes, and was great because he is the only Kaffir chief that has beaten the English, and therefore they looked up to him.

They also told me that when the Basutos arrived, Krel'i slaughtered oxen for them. I believe the object of these men being sent to Krel'i is to see and hear what the Kaffirs intend to do.

## Annexure No. 13.

Extract from information communicated to the Chief Commissioner by a trustworthy Native just returned from across the Kei, Fort Murray, December 8, 1856.

ABOUT a fortnight ago, when on my way to see my family at the Clarkeburg Station on the Bashee, I met Krel'i at Butterworth; and as I am in Krel'i's confidence, having known him for many years, he called me aside, and the following private interview took place between Krel'i and myself, two of his counsellors Vena and Maki being also present.

Krel'i commenced by asking for the news from King William's Town; what the white people thought of the talk going on in the country about Umhlakaza and a new people, and about the order to destroy cattle and corn, and not to cultivate.

I said to Krel'i I had no news. Everything was quiet, so far as concerned the white people. Krel'i replied, Umhlakaza and Nongaulo were not in any way to blame; they spoke the truth.

I asked Krelī what he and his people could live upon if they destroyed all their corn and cattle, and did not cultivate. He said it was intention to make war with the English; that he killed his cattle so as to have none to guard, and therefore have more men available to fight; that he did not see the use of cultivating, as the crops would, when the war commenced, only be cut down by the troops, as was the case with the Gikias last war; and as to provisions, when the war was going on the Kaffirs could obtain food by taking cattle from the white people and the Tambookies, as he would make war with the Tambookies also.

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See Annexure 18.

I told Krelī that I had heard that Sandilli was cultivating, and that I believed the other chiefs, viz. Pato, Macomo, and Umhala, would also shortly. He replied, "You do not know what I know; that is all done as a blind. I and they have already come to a thorough understanding; none of them will take a part opposite to what I take. All I tell you is, that when I and my people have cleared ourselves of the incumbrances of cattle and corn, I, Krelī, will move from the Hohita further from the English to the country of the umtsindeukala" (name of a short grass which grows in upper country, Mosheesh's), "for I am now so near the English that they can start from King William's Town, and in two days be in my country, therefore I would like to have the women and children at a distance, and an open field for the men to fight."

About two weeks ago, Matomela, son of Goeweni, was again sent by Krelī with a message to Mosheesh. He has not yet returned, and is daily expected. The message sent by Krelī is said to be to ask for a place for Krelī near Mosheesh, so as to set up a combination against the white people.

Krelī recommended me to move my family and property from the Clarkebury Station to Butterworth. I replied to Krelī, that if he intended to make a war I did not think I could better myself at Butterworth, but that I would move on to King William's Town. Krelī replied, it was the worst spot I could go to, as that was the place the Kaffirs would try to take rather than any other.

If I may judge from my talk with Krelī, I think an outbreak cannot be far off, and that it may be expected about the new year; it may be put off according to circumstances; but this I am sure, that Krelī is bent upon war, and that he is doing all in his power, if he has not already persuaded the great chiefs this side of the Kei, to join him.

#### Annexure No. 14.

Extract from Chief Toise's Statement, Fort Murray, June 3, 1856.

DURING Maclean's absence to Faku I have been visited by Umjuza, a head man in Krelī's country, and son of the prophet Lynx, who told me that he was on his way to Samuel Kama, his son-in-law; that many reports of war were being circulated, and many people from different tribes had been to him, Umjuza, to hear the news, supposing that he had communications with the spirit of his father Lynx; that he, Umjuza, was very sore about this, as all these false reports gave him a bad name with the Government; that he had now been engaged in three wars, and did not wish to join in another; he knew that in consequence of the present excited state of the Kaffirs, increased in a great measure by the prophecies of several prophets, two of them in Kama's location, who are misleading the Kaffirs into believing all manner of absurd predictions, would, when an opportunity offered, cause a general disturbance throughout Kaffirland.

Umjuza farther said, that he had some time previous visited Samuel Kama, for the purpose of asking him to speak for him to the Government for a place to stop; that Samuel replied he recommended Umjuza not to put himself under the Government; that he, Samuel, had done so, but that he saw nothing was to be gained by it. Umjuza also said, that Krelī had frequent communications with Mosheesh of a hostile nature, and that Sandilli was made acquainted by Krelī with all that passed; and in the event of any troops being sent from the colony to assist the Boers in any affray against Mosheesh, it is the intention of the frontier Kaffirs to commence a war; but should no troops be sent, and Mosheesh meet with a reverse from the Boers, then there will be a probability of peace for the present.

#### Annexure No. 15.

SIR,

Windvogelberg, November 23, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, that shortly after despatching my letters to you this morning, Anta gave me the following information, evidently considering it very important.

He stated that he had received a message from Monessi saying that the Tambookies, her people, were very ill disposed; that she could not restrain them; that they were slaughtering cattle in great numbers, and not sowing. She also said that Krelī had sent a message to her saying, that he and his people were slaughtering, and not sowing, and that he considered himself sufficiently powerful and prepared to commence a war with the English at any

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moment. Anta then stated that his impression is that Krel's Kaffirs are prepared for active hostilities, and are wishing and expecting the English to attack them.

The people generally, he says, are firmly persuaded that a crisis is at hand, and in his opinion things are looking very threatening. He then mentioned that Siwani, Kama, Toise, Kona, Ola, and himself were all sowing, and were favourable to the Government.

He says that the prophet has circulated a report to the effect that a fight had taken place near the mouth of the Kei between his people and the English; that one soldier had been wounded and taken prisoner, and the rest obliged to fly. Anta says that this report is spreading rapidly, and the Kaffirs, thinking that the English have sustained a defeat, are slaughtering their cattle more madly than ever. He complains that his people find great difficulty in passing through the country, the disaffected Kaffirs refusing to supply them with food, even when they have slaughtered cattle in abundance.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) R. F. ROBERTSON,  
Captain 60th Rifles,  
Special Magistrate.

Colonel Maclean, Chief Commissioner,  
Fort Murrny.

#### Annexure No. 16.

Extract from Statement of Ronn, right-hand Son of Macomo, Hangman's Bush,  
December 8, 1856.

RONN stated the influence of the prophet has much increased, and the Kaffirs are now more firm believers than ever, and that many of the Kaffirs believed that Umhlakaza had destroyed the steamer Geyser at the Kei mouth. He also stated that most of the prophet's words now have reference to the destruction of the white people; and that although he at one time did not think that there would be war, he had now changed his opinion. His belief now was that there would be war between the Kaffirs and white people.

I asked him what change had taken place, or what he had lately heard or seen, that induced him to change his opinion on the state of affairs. To this question he said he could give no answer beyond this, that there would be many thefts committed, which would lead to bad feelings on both sides, and also that in all former wars prophets like Umhlakaza were concerned. He also stated that the people were not anxious for war; in fact they feared it; but this fear was not sufficient to prevent it.

#### Annexure No. 17.

Extract from a Letter of Major Gawler, dated December 25, 1856.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report, that I have received information that a messenger from Moshesh was at Krel's, saying that Moshesh's cattle, &c. had been given out, and that Krel was to go to Umhlakaza's to receive his. Umhala, on receiving this information, about three days ago, despatched Nonwe, Kwithee, and another, to the prophet's, to hear the news. This he has not mentioned to me, although on a recent occasion he assured me that in this matter he had done and would do nothing underhand, promising to acquaint me of everything, and expressing himself merely anxious to learn the truth.

Extract from a Letter of Major Gawler, dated Waterloo House, January 3, 1857.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report that I have received information that there are messengers at Umhala's arrived this morning from Sandilli and Krel.

Moshesh sends to Krel,—“My new cattle and people have been given out; are you ready? On the return of this messenger I will move down and join you.” Krel answers, “I am ready,” and forwards this news to Sandilli, Macomo, and Umhala.

It is also said that the chiefs are to meet at the prophet's in a few days.

Extract from a Letter of Mr. Brownlee, dated Dohne, December 31, 1856.

A REPORT is now in circulation that Moshesh's people, having complied with the injunctions of Umhlakaza, have already received the promise, which was ashered in by the most terrific thunder and lightning, during which the unbelievers and their cattle were swept into the sea.

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Extract from a Letter of Mr. Brownlee, dated Dolne, January 4, 1857.

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Sir,

In pursuance of my work, I left this on the 1st instant, proceeded to Sandilli on the 2d, where I found a messenger from Krelî to Sandilli, who had arrived on the evening of the 1st instant, Sandilli's messenger, who had been sent to apprise me of the message from Krelî, having missed me by the way.

The messenger, Mongwagi, a Gaika resident in Krelî's country, informed me that he had been sent to Sandilli with an order from Krelî, that as the time was near at hand for the fulfilment of the promise all cattle and goats were to be destroyed without further delay.

Krelî further directed his messenger to say, that the state of things which the Kaffirs looked forward to had already taken place in Moshesh's country; several unbelievers who had witnessed the revolution, and who had escaped, after leaving all their property, had arrived from Krelî's country from Moshesh's, and these men had informed Krelî of what had taken place.

Nongxwagi states, that Krelî pointed out to him one of these men, whose statement, though now in detail, corresponds in substance with the report mentioned by me in Letter No. 123. of 31st ultimo. The name of the man was unknown to Nongxwagi, and states that he had not been sent by Moshesh. On the latter part of the statement I entertain doubts, as it is unlikely that Krelî would have made a special and public announcement of the statement of an unknown and private individual, and think the real message has been prevented and concealed. I feel confident that a direct message from Moshesh has been received, the effects of the message having been illustrated by the numbers of cattle which were killed immediately after the circulation of the report regarding Moshesh.

Sandilli was directed by Krelî to acquaint the chiefs west of the Kei with the message sent by Nongxwagi, and in compliance sent messengers to Umhala and Macomo, directing the former to make known the message to Pato and the other H'lamhi Tribes, while Macomo was to acquaint Botman, Kamm, and Toise with the communication received from Krelî.

## Annexure No. 17.

Extract from a Letter of Mr. Warner, Tambookie Agent, dated January 9, 1857.

THERE is also now a very general rumour afloat, that a number of Tambookie men and women, who have been residing for a long time in Moshesh's country, are in Tambookie land, on a visit to their friends, and that they state that all the prophet's predictions have already been fulfilled in Moshesh's favoured land, and that the earth has been removed, the dead have arisen, &c. &c.

This report is generally believed, and yet I can find no one who has actually seen these visitors.

## Annexure No. 18.

Extract from Information this day communicated to the Chief Commissioner by the same trustworthy Native who gave me the account of December 8, 1856, Annexure No. 13, Fort Murray, January 14, 1857.

It is reported that it was the wish of the minor Galeka chiefs who were present at the meeting at Butterworth, that as the full moon would then so soon take place, that Krelî should wait to see what would happen; but Krelî expressed himself very anxious to return, owing to five messengers from Moshesh being at his great place, with whom he wished to converse.

What I communicated some days ago as having been said to me by Krelî, viz., that the reason of the killing of cattle and non-cultivating was to rid themselves of innumbrances when war took place, is now publicly spoken of in Krelî's country as being the real object the Kaffirs have in view; and if they cannot succeed in bringing on a general war with the colony, they will continue their warfare with the Tembus, by seizing their cattle.

## Annexure No. 19.

Extract from Information from a Person from beyond the Kei, Fort Murray, December 25, 1856.

THE Galekas near me are civil, and appear very quiet, but during these few days have recommenced slaughtering at a fearful rate [The same statement has also been made by another person.] I was told that the reason for this renewed slaughtering was that the daughter of Twangu, a man who lives about five miles from Butterworth, and who has married one of Moshesh's people, has come down with ten followers on a visit to her father, and has stated that Moshesh's army is already out, asking her father, who had not up to that time killed, why he was so foolish as to disobey. Two or three days after I had heard

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this, two of the traders at Butterworth brought in one day upwards of two hundred hides.

That the woman arrived I know to be a fact, and that the father then killed his cattle. [See also Annexure No. 17.]

Krelli was the other day at Butterworth, intending, I believe, to have gone down to see the prophet, but the rains prevented him. His two messengers to the prophet asked that something might be shown to them that they might have something to report to Krelli; but he, on hearing this, would have put them to death, (saying, were they chiefs, that they should desire to see anything ?) had his councillors not interceded.

No. 27.

No. 27.

COPY of a DESPATCH from GOVERNOR SIR GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOOGHERE.

(No. 39.)

King William's Town, March 25, 1857.

(Received May 27, 1857.)

(Answered No. 201, June 4, 1857, page 103.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report that matters continue to progress favourably in this province. The influence hitherto possessed by the chiefs continues, in the present state of general destitution, rapidly to decline, and I hope that this will so effectually be the case that they can never hereafter exercise an influence over their race, which they have hitherto almost always employed for evil.

2. The tribes continue to break up, the destitute abandoning their chiefs, and scattering themselves wherever they can obtain food. Numbers of persons are still sent into the Cape colony to be indentured as servants, and for this purpose are forwarded in groups of families. The supply of labour which will thus be placed at the disposal of the farmers will tend greatly to develop the resources of the colony, and to promote the wealth and prosperity of its inhabitants; whilst the removal of such large numbers of persons from this country renders it much easier to deal firmly and decisively with the remainder, and to coerce chiefs whose power appears to melt away from them. Fortunately, the harvest of this year has been a remarkably abundant one. There is thus, notwithstanding the large number of persons who have refused to cultivate, quite sufficient food to support the entire population. Anything like general want cannot therefore be known, although many of those who have voluntarily destroyed their means of subsistence must necessarily suffer, and perhaps perish from want, as no aid that we can afford can reach the entire distant population. It is impossible to reflect on the sufferings of the aged, the females, and the children in these distant places, without feeling the utmost indignation against those chiefs who for their own selfish and ambitious projects have brought such severe distresses on their nation. The power of these chiefs had already received a severe blow from their having been compelled to derive their revenues from the Government, instead of extorting them from their people, as heretofore; and I feel quite satisfied that their late conduct has irretrievably destroyed that portion of their influence which was still left to them, and that henceforth we may govern the country ourselves, the chiefs being mere dependents upon us.

3. Robberies, whether by armed or unarmed men, have become much less frequent than heretofore. It has not yet been found necessary to punish any person with death for robbery accompanied by acts of violence, for it has been found that the terrors of transportation are so great to a Kaffir that this punishment is quite sufficient to check the system of armed violence which for a few days led to such dreadful results. But it is absolutely necessary to continue the punishment of transportation, at least until the bands of robbers have all been broken up. It is only by a continuance of prompt examples of this kind that we can hope to restrain the violent. Indeed, merely to the natives themselves requires that this should be done, as I found that before I adopted such decided steps the unbelievers had taken the law into their own hands, and were adopting the system, when they apprehended thieves, of tying their hands and feet together, and drowning them in the hole of a river. Since, however, the Government has peremptorily prohibited the natives from inflicting any punishment themselves upon any persons they apprehended, this system

has ceased, and it could not have been allowed to continue without debasing the native mind, and permanently injuring the influence of the Government.

4. Although matters now bear so favourable an aspect, it must be remembered that the whole winter and spring have yet to be passed through before those who have this year neglected to cultivate can again obtain any sustenance from their own crops, during which period of time many desperate barbarians will probably try to organize themselves into bands for the purpose of pillage. Hence, the most unceasing vigilance will still require to be for some time exercised to crush each of these bands before it attains to any formidable degree of strength or prestige. For this purpose, at present, we are most deficient in cavalry, although I have caused measures to be taken by mounting part of the military settlers, and by increasing the Cape corps to its full authorized establishment, which will partly remedy this deficiency.

5. Upon the whole, however much Her Majesty's Government may deplore the sufferings which necessarily attend the crisis through which this country is passing, they may rest assured that ultimately the most beneficial consequences will follow from what is now taking place. All that is necessary is, that every exertion should be made to improve, to the utmost, the present occasion.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

## No. 28.

No. 28.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 44.)

Cape Town, April 4, 1857.

(Received May 27, 1857.)

(Answered No. 201, June 4, 1857, page 103.)

SIR,

THE Overland Post from Kaffraria has just arrived; and as the monthly mail for England is on the point of closing, I think it will be interesting to you to hear that the reports received state that everything in Kaffraria continues tranquil, and that nothing worthy of notice has taken place since I left that country upon the 26th ultimo. The German military settlers are taking up their several locations. Their conduct is entirely satisfactory; and the experiment of sending them to this country will, I have no doubt, prove a successful one.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

## No. 29.

No. 29.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 45.)

Cape Town, April 8, 1857.

(Received, June 22, 1857.)

(Answered No. 218, July 2, 1857, page 105.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour herewith to transmit for your information a copy of the speech with which I yesterday opened the fourth session of the Parliament of the Cape of Good Hope.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

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HOPE.

Encl. in No. 29.

Enclosure in No. 29.

SPEECH of his Excellency the Governor at the opening of the Fourth Session of Parliament.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,  
Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

I HAD hoped that it might have been in my power to assemble you at an earlier period, for the purpose of submitting to your consideration various measures of great importance to the future welfare of this colony. Circumstances, however, which had occurred beyond the colonial boundary, and over which I had no control, have compelled me to delay your meeting until the present time. I trust that no disadvantage to the public interests, and that no inconvenience to the members themselves, may result from my having been compelled to pursue this course, which has certainly in some respects proved of great advantage to the country.

2. You will be glad to learn that many of the enactments passed during your recent sessions have been found most useful in their operation, and have quite realised for the colony those benefits which it was hoped would flow from them.

3. From various sources information has been received, which shows that the Act of last session relating to resident magistrates courts has been productive of much good. The increase of jurisdiction in these courts, and the holding of periodical courts in places other than the stated seats of magistracy, have been found to conduce most materially to the cheap and efficient administration of justice. It will be in your recollection that the Act of last session, regarding those periodical courts as an experiment, withheld from them any civil jurisdiction, except in cases between master and servant. The experience of the working of these courts has proved, as I conceive, that they may safely and usefully exercise jurisdiction in civil cases; and I have therefore directed that a Bill should be prepared and laid before you for conferring such jurisdiction upon periodical courts, and for amending the recent Act in some points of minor consequence.

4. In order that increased efficiency may be given to the administration of justice in the country districts, I have recommended that resident magistrates should now be appointed for Hope Town, Bedford, and the Knysna.

5. I trust that the subject of education, involving as it does the whole future of the country, will receive your early and attentive consideration. The large number of schools for which grants have been applied under the existing regulations will for a time considerably increase the expenditure which must be incurred for educational purposes.

6. In accordance with the wish expressed by the honourable House of Assembly, I appointed a commission to consider the insolvent law of the colony, with a view of ascertaining and reporting what improvements could be introduced into it. The commissioners, comprising all the judges of the supreme court, have given the subject great attention, and have presented two valuable reports, which shall be laid before you, and which will, I trust, form the foundation of useful legislation.

7. I have also appointed a commission to examine the existing statute law of the colony, with a view of bringing together and classifying all those enactments which are still in force, and of ultimately enabling you to clear the statute book of many useless and obsolete ordinances which now encumber it.

8. The question of public works is one which demands your early consideration. I particularly recommend to your attention the measure which will be submitted to you for making and maintaining in repair the various lines of communication which traverse this country, as also the proposals which will be laid before you for the construction of important bridges at points where the want of such convenience materially interferes with the internal trade of the country.

9. A correspondence will be transmitted to you for your consideration, which contains a proposal for the construction of a harbour of refuge in Table Bay. It is hardly possible to over-estimate the value of such a work for the commerce of the world.

10. If Great Britain had desired to exercise the power of legislation in local matters in this colony, it would have been easy, by the imposition of light harbour dues, under the authority of an Act of the Imperial Parliament, to have provided means for the ultimate repayment of the cost of a work which would have been used by the vessels of all nations. But, as various local interests are concerned in the question of the kind of duties which, while they will ultimately supply the funds necessary for this work, will at the same time best promote the trade and commerce of the Cape of Good Hope, the subject has been left for your consideration. If, as I cannot doubt, it is your desire to see such a harbour constructed in Table Bay, I recommend you at an early period of the session to determine in what manner provision should be made for ultimately raising the funds which will be required for this work.

11. I have been directed by Her Majesty's Government to bring under your notice that the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Amendment Act of 1855 require that the local legislature should give their assent to the erection of lighthouses, and should signify their opinion by address or legislative enactment that dues on the colonial lighthouses ought to be levied. When you may have taken these steps the Queen will then, by Order in Council, appoint dues to be paid for the lighthouses in the colony. I am further directed to inform



you, in reference to this subject, that all but a very small part of the revenue to be derived from the lighthouses in this colony will be paid by the trade of Great Britain, and will be collected in its ports.

12. I have directed that surveys and estimates should be made for two lines of railroad. The first running from Cape Town to Wellington by way of the Paarl, with branches to Wynberg, Stellenbosch, and Malmesbury, some of the most important districts at this end of the colony. The total length of this line would be 92½ miles, and its estimated cost is 633,750*l*. The second, running from Port Elizabeth to Graham's Town by way of Uitenhage, and planned with a view of embracing the traffic which comes through the Zuurberg Pass. The length of this line is 135 miles, and its estimated cost is 604,303*l*.

13. The present traffic alone upon these two lines is so great (now costing annually about 140,000*l*.), that it is estimated it will defray the interest of the cost of the construction, and the annual charges which will be incurred in working them, and maintaining them in an efficient state.

14. The information which will be thus laid before you will enable you to determine whether it would be better that the Government should undertake these great public works, or whether it should rather guarantee a certain rate of interest to companies who may execute them. The subject of railroads is one of such great importance to the future interests of the colony that I feel sure you will bestow upon it that careful consideration which it demands.

15. I have recommended for your consideration such great public works, in the hope and expectation that you will during this session make some provision for introducing into the colony immigrants from Europe. Unless some extensive system of immigration be adopted, none of the proposed public works can be carried on. To attempt to do so would, by withdrawing the already quite inadequate supply of labour from the pursuits in which it is now profitably employed, destroy those sources of industry which are at present yielding such large returns to the settlers throughout the colony, and consequently reduce our exports and cripple our trade.

16. On a former occasion I requested you to bear in mind, when you were devising plans for securing to this colony railroads, harbours, or efficient frontier defence, that every one of these advantages would necessarily follow from a large increase to your European population; that almost every other means that you could devise for obtaining any one of these advantages would be uncertain, and might be only temporary in its results; but that a largely increased European population would infallibly and permanently secure every one of them, as well as many other advantages for you; and I would again earnestly press these same remarks upon your consideration.

17. If you determine to sanction the establishment of a system for the introduction of European immigrants into the colony, the particular point which will demand your attention is, whether this should be done by an annual grant, or by the power being conferred upon the Government to raise, if necessary, a loan for this purpose.

18. Already during this year nearly three thousand Europeans have been added to our population by the arrival of the Anglo-German Legion; a body of men who are led by excellent and experienced officers, and who, I am quite satisfied, from close personal observation, will make good and useful settlers; whilst, in the event of future hostilities, they would prove a most valuable addition to our force.

19. Unfortunately, they were not accompanied to this country by so large a proportion of women and children as you were led to expect, and they were thus placed in a position most trying to discipline. But the Home Government, seeing the difficulty which had arisen, have signified their willingness to have carried out any system of immigration adapted to remove a defect which, if left unremedied, could not but produce most disastrous results; and a plan has already been submitted for their approval, which will, I trust, quite remove the difficulty arising from this cause.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

20. The estimates of the revenue and expenditure for the current year shall without delay be laid before Parliament.

21. You will find that whilst the revenue of the past year was estimated at something less than 305,000*l*., that for the current year is estimated at nearly 387,000*l*. This great augmentation in the revenue of the country is mainly to be attributed to the rapid increase which is taking place in the amount of our exports, and to consequently increasing commerce and trade.

22. This augmentation of our revenue affords the means of increasing the at present very inadequate amount of remuneration which is given to some very meritorious and hard-worked classes of the public servants, whilst the great rise which has taken place in the price of nearly all the necessities of life apparently renders an augmentation of their salaries at once an act of justice and necessity. You will accordingly find, when the estimates are laid before you, that I have recommended to your consideration an increase in the salaries of several classes of public officers.

23. I have thought it my duty to recommend you not to make any large savings from the revenue which is placed at the disposal of Parliament; but whilst I have refrained from recommending any great increase of expenditure, in the whole, upon public salaries, I have recommended a large expenditure upon immigration and upon public works of undoubted utility, with the view of fostering that great development of our resources

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which is now taking place, and which shows that under judicious management this colony may rise to a very high degree of greatness and importance.

24. The prosperous state of the finances of the country will enable the Government to provide the contribution which this colony is to pay towards the expenses of bringing out the Anglo-German Legion from the ordinary revenue, without raising any loan for the purpose, as was at one time contemplated.

25. From the same source also can be defrayed the cost of introducing as many immigrants from Europe as the colony could probably conveniently and profitably absorb during the current year.

26. When I am aware what measures Parliament will take for sanctioning the introduction of immigrants into the colony, and it is thus ascertained that the supply of labour will in some respects be equal to the demands of the country, I shall, from the flourishing state of the finances, be, I trust, able to recommend you to sanction the construction of additional roads, which are urgently required in some of the most important districts.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

27. The great increase in our commercial prosperity which began to develop itself in the year 1855 still continues. In the year 1854 the value of our exports was \$68,000*l*. In the year 1856 that value had nearly doubled itself, having risen to 1,240,625*l*. The quantity of wool exported during the year 1854 was 8,567,457 lbs. In 1856 our exports of wool had also nearly doubled themselves, having risen to about 15,000,000 lbs. Indeed, generally, the condition of the colony must be admitted to be one of prosperity, for which we cannot feel too grateful to Divine Providence.

28. One evil only has recently threatened our safety and welfare, and from its importance it is necessary I should allude to the subject at some length.

29. At the conclusion of the late Kaffir war the Kaffirs were, at a public meeting, informed that they should for the future be placed under the government of their own chiefs, to be governed according to Kaffir laws and usages. Consequently, even when appeals were made to the Government by unfortunate people against the oppressions of their chiefs, it was ruled that, in accordance with the principles upon which the Government had decided to act, such appeals against the chiefs could not be entertained.

30. The Kaffir laws and usages, which were thus made the paramount institutions of the country, make provision for legalizing the indulgence of the chiefs and great people in every vice of which the most depraved nature is capable, and for subjecting a whole nation to the worst and most degrading tyranny and oppression upon the part of a few. In fact, to allow such laws to be administered was to prevent hopelessly the introduction of civilization and Christianity into the country, and to permit a few vicious ill-disposed chiefs to defeat with certainty the manifold attempts which were being made on so great a scale for the improvement and social advancement of their race; whilst to assist in the administration of such laws was not to rule, but to be the servant of vicious barbarians,—to aid the bad in oppressing the good.

31. Although, therefore, it was represented to me that to attempt to interfere with the system which was in operation would endanger our safety, and prove hazardous to the peace of the country, even if the Kaffir chiefs should apparently acquiesce in the measures introduced amongst them, I thought it unbecomingly longer to aid in carrying out such a system, and from a fear of danger to persist in what I believed to be wrong. In fact, all risks appeared to me preferable to a continuance of what was taking place; and this more especially, as all persons well acquainted with the country admitted that the state of things which then prevailed was in fact an armed truce; that no measures were in progress which could bring about the final settlement of the country, or which would lastingly maintain peace; that, on the contrary, another war must inevitably come, and that the only question was, for how long a time it could be delayed. Under these circumstances I thought it my duty to act on my own judgment, and to incur any necessary risk in carrying out those plans, in the ultimate success of which I had confidence, only taking care that these were brought into operation in as conciliatory a manner as possible, and with every precaution which humanity could suggest.

32. I, therefore, as I informed you upon a previous occasion, made arrangements by which a European magistrate was located in each district in British Kaffraria, and a simple mode of administering justice was adopted, which gave a security to life and property, such as had never previously been enjoyed in that country.

33. As a necessary part of such a system, the fines and fees formerly taken by the principal and petty chiefs of Kaffraria for administering Kaffir law amongst their people, became, as in all other British possessions, a part of the public revenues of the Crown, the chiefs being paid for the duties they now performed by a fixed stipend, provided by the Government, which was made as nearly as possible equivalent to the advantages they had derived under the former state of things.

34. The result of such a change of plan was, that all the worst parts of the Kaffir polity soon began to break down, and the influence and authority of the chiefs to decline, whilst life and property became more secure, and the well-disposed amongst the Kaffir race evidently began to regard the Government with confidence and hope.

35. How far what followed sprang from those proceedings I cannot say, for several causes for discontent have been alleged on behalf of the Kaffir races; but I have thought it right to state for your information everything in which I have been personally concerned connected with this subject.

36. Many months had not elapsed after the power and influence of the chiefs, especially of the paramount chief over his subordinates, began to decline, when reports were spread that a powerful combination had been formed amongst certain of the Kaffir chiefs, for the purpose of casting off our rule, and driving us out of the country.

37. At length these rumours took a defined form. A prophet had arisen upon the other side of the Kei, under the direct and open patronage of the paramount chief of Kaffraria, who revived the ancient predictions of the race, which had been before uttered by Lynx and Umslangeni's foretelling the final success and triumph of the black race, the resurrection of their ancestors from the dead, and the total destruction of the whites.

38. To bring these events about, the people were to destroy all their cattle and other live stock, as also their corn in store, to get rid of their ornaments, and to refrain from cultivating the ground, so that they might at the usual time of harvest be utterly destitute of all means of subsistence. The only things which were not to be destroyed or disposed of, but which were sedulously increased, by theft or other means, were horses, arms, and ammunition.

39. The believers in the prophet foretold that the results of such proceedings were to be, the propitiation of the spirits of their ancestors, and their consequent re-appearance from amongst the dead to aid their descendants, and the total destruction of the whites and unbelievers, by supernatural means.

40. Those who did not believe in the prophet asserted that under this show of superstition, by which the chiefs worked on the terrors and prejudices of the most ignorant and superstitious of their tribes, lay hidden a deep political plot; that the arms, horses, and ammunition were preserved or obtained for war; that the cattle and corn were destroyed because the care of them had been found to be an incumbrance in former wars, men's thoughts being then divided between preserving their own property and assailing their enemy's; that the means of subsistence were destroyed because starving and desperate men would more readily and fiercely attack scattered farmers on a vast and extended frontier, by the pillage of whom their wants would be readily and abundantly supplied.

41. Whatever the object of the chiefs might be, the course they were pursuing in encouraging the prophet, and in many instances, particularly beyond our territory, compelling their people to comply with his behests, was full of peril for the Government. A race such as the Kaffirs, reduced to starvation, and excited by hopes of such great successes as were promised to them, would necessarily commit thefts and other outrages, and from these, unless the greatest prudence was observed, war would inevitably result.

42. Indeed it soon became obvious that the object of some of the chiefs was to provoke us to war, and to tempt us to make an effort to seize either the prophet, or some one of the chiefs, and thus to embark in military operations which would inevitably bring on a prolonged contest.

43. To have done this, however, would have been to have played the game of the chiefs. War would have reinstated them in all their former power and influence. At its close they would have been, as regarded their influence over their followers, far more powerful than at its commencement. All that had been accomplished to bring them under European law and influence would have been undone; the growing prosperity of the country would have been destroyed; capital and emigrants would have ceased to resort to the colony; flourishing homesteads would have been laid waste; flocks and herds have been swept off by barbarians; our commerce and trade checked; and evils which can hardly be estimated have been inflicted upon this country, which is now so flourishing.

44. The Government, therefore, calmly and unswervingly pursued the course on which it had entered. It took all measures requisite for securing the ultimate welfare of the country, exactly as if war was a contingency which it was impossible could happen; but, as regards preparations for war it acted as if it must inevitably come, and day by day, as far as the means at its disposal permitted, it strengthened itself, and prepared at all points to crush each spark of rebellion when it first broke out, and ere it could grow to importance; in all of which objects the local authorities received from the Home Government that liberal and generous support which you have witnessed, and without which their efforts must have been paralysed.

45. It was judged to be probable that the career upon which the Kaffir chiefs appeared to have resolved to enter would end in the breaking up of their nation, in the destruction of their own power, and in a complete change in the habits of the entire race; as, if the people persisted in destroying their horned stock, the milk and flesh of which had, from time immemorial, formed their chief means of subsistence, they would be necessarily compelled to become cultivators of the soil, and in a great measure to sustain themselves and their families by a more laborious industry than they had ever previously adopted. In fact, voluntarily to destroy their cattle was voluntarily to destroy their entire polity, and to sweep away all their national habits and customs.

46. If these ends were attained, great advantages would evidently result to the colony; but the means by which they appeared likely to be brought about would necessarily involve so vast an amount of human suffering and misery, that although the Government

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determined unflinchingly to follow the line of policy which it had marked out if the Kaffirs persisted in their plans, yet every effort was made to divert them from them. I personally visited each influential chief, and in the presence of his people pointed out in the strongest terms the certain destruction towards which they were advancing, and neglected no means within my power, or that of the authorities and missionaries in the country, to deter them from the course they seemed resolved to pursue; but this was all done without effect.

47. As was foreseen, however, the chiefs had over-estimated their power over their people. Their influence had already suffered a greater decline than they were aware of. A day of hope had already dawned for the well-disposed, and many of their people now refused to obey the commands of the prophet, and would not destroy their cherished cattle. Hence arose two great parties in the nation; the believers and the unbelievers; the latter including most of those who were attached to missionary stations, or who were retained in the pay of the Government as a village police, or who had adopted European customs. The believers gradually destroyed all their corn and live-stock of every description, and would not cultivate their land; one part of them apparently hoping, month after month, that they would be attacked, and that a war would be brought on; the other part of them, whose superstition led them faithfully and truly to believe in the prophet, earnestly trusting day by day that his predictions would be fulfilled.

48. At length matters drew towards a crisis. The means of subsistence of the Kaffir race had by the month of February last so far diminished that it was requisite that some decisive step should be taken by their chiefs. Their prophet therefore fixed upon Wednesday the 18th February as the day upon which his predictions were to be fulfilled. When the sun rose that morning, after wandering for a time in the heavens, it was to set again in the east, and a hurricane was then to sweep from the earth all who had not believed in and obeyed the prophet, whether Europeans or Kaffirs. Then the ancestors of the Kaffirs were to rise from the dead, with countless herds of cattle of an improved breed, and with quantities of property of every description, all of which were to be shared out amongst the followers of the prophet, who were to be at the same time restored to youth and endowed with beauty.

49. During the few days preceding the 18th February, the believers in the prophet slaughtered all their remaining cattle and live stock, and destroyed what means of subsistence they had left. They had previously re-thatched their huts in the most careful manner, that they might resist the expected hurricane; and finally, on the Wednesday, shut themselves up in them, awaiting the events which it had been predicted were to take place.

50. The 19th of February found them disappointed, destitute, and in many instances prepared to commit any outrage. So complete was the state of destitution to which the followers of the prophet had reduced themselves, that one of the greatest chiefs, who had formerly owned immense herds of cattle, had not a single head left; none of the greatest chiefs had preserved more than three or four; one of the leading chiefs has been obliged to work upon the roads, whilst in many parts the country was covered throughout the day by crowds of women and children digging for wild roots, as the only means of subsistence left to them. Bands of marauders soon collected together, and began to attempt to pillage indiscriminately, either Europeans or their unbelieving countrymen. Many robberies were committed by armed parties, and some unfortunate persons were barbarously murdered. It was evident that the long anticipated crisis had at length come, and the Government at once took measures—

51. To provide employment within the colony or upon public works for all destitute persons who might apply for work; to make such arrangements as might prevent bands of marauders from passing into the colony; to render safe the principal high roads in British Kaffraria; to organise the unbelieving natives who still preserved their cattle and property, so that they might be able successfully to resist and put down their marauding countrymen.

52. The exertions made by the military and civil authorities, both within the colony and in British Kaffraria, promptly to attain these ends, deserve the highest praise. To their unremitting endeavour to carry out the duties severally assigned to them is undoubtedly to be attributed the rapidity with which the country passed through so trying a crisis, and our present state of comparative safety has been attained.

53. But although the power of the chiefs has by recent events been so much diminished, and apparent tranquillity has been restored to the country, it must be remembered that the dreary months of the winter have yet to be passed through, and that the most unremitting exertions will still be requisite upon the part of the Government, both to provide the means of support for the destitute and to take full advantage of the wholly unlooked-for state of things which has arisen in Kaffraria. The abundant crops which a favourable season has yielded, and the unusual industry of the faithful Fingoes and unbelieving Kaffirs, will materially forward these objects.

54. Wisely used, the existing crisis may produce permanent advantages for the whole of South Africa. A restless nation, who for years have harassed the frontier, may now to a great extent be changed into useful labourers. Those who have hitherto destroyed the resources of the colony whenever they appeared about to expand may now be made the means of giving to those resources by their industry a greater development than they have ever hitherto attained. The influence of the chiefs for evil having to a great extent

been swept away, there is now a greater hope than at any former period that civilization and Christianity may be successfully introduced amongst the Kaffir race.

55. To attain these ends your assistance must in many respects be needed. The full statement I have made to you regarding the circumstances which have recently transpired in Kaffraria will, I trust, enable you to mature and possibly to add to the measures in relation to these subjects which I have had prepared for your consideration. I think that a transference to the colony, under proper regulations, of a considerable number of destitute persons from Kaffraria as labourers, will prove highly advantageous to this country, whilst it will enable the Government of that province more rapidly and conveniently to introduce into it the large population which it is now endeavouring to obtain by emigration from Europe.

56. I hope, indeed, that I may be able to devise means which will not only enable the Government to fill up the vacant portions of British Kaffraria with a European population sufficiently large to maintain itself, and to exercise a powerful influence for good upon the Kaffir race, but which will also enable it to establish a European settlement in Kaffraria. Properly sufficient strong to control and keep in check those tribes beyond the Kei who have manifested a hostile spirit, and to encourage and support our friends and allies in that quarter, whilst their presence will at the same time give a great impetus and assistance to the colony of Natal, and occupy the vacant space intervening between us and that country, which it is essential to both our interests should not be filled up by new tribes of barbarians swarming into it from the interior.

57. The series of events which I have detailed to you appear likely to secure for us the blessings of a lasting peace, and of a prosperity surpassing any expectations which could a short time since have been reasonably formed, whilst, as they have been brought about by means so novel and unexpected, and so entirely beyond man's control, they teach us to turn with thankful gratitude to that overruling Providence which has so wonderfully worked out its own designs.

No. 30.

No. 30.

COPY of a DESPATCH from GOVERNOR SIR GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 48.)

Cape Town, April 15, 1857.

(Received June 22, 1857.)

Sir,

(Answered No. 218, July 2, 1857, page 105.)

ADVERTING to my Despatch No. 45\* of the 8th instant, in which I transmitted a copy of the speech with which I opened the fourth session of the colonial Parliament, I have now the honour to inclose a copy of the address which was this day brought up to me by the Legislative Council, or upper house. You will, I am sure, feel gratified at the warm terms in which the Legislative Council acknowledge their debt of gratitude to Her Majesty's Government for the generous aid which has so constantly been afforded to this colony.

\*Page 85.

Enclosure,  
Address.

I have, &amp;c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

Enclosure in No. 30.

Encl. in No. 30.

May it please your Excellency,

We, the Legislative Council, in Parliament assembled, having carefully considered and deliberately weighed the several important topics contained in the speech delivered by your Excellency on opening of the session, desire to convey to your Excellency our high gratification at the tenor of it, and the encouraging prospect it holds out of future prosperity.

The great questions of public education, of roads, of railways, of harbour improvements, of lighthouses, and, generally, of the removal of physical difficulties to internal communication, which are advocated by your Excellency, shall have our earnest attention, in the hope that such measures may be devised, and such decisions arrived at, as will be within the means of the colony, and tend to promote the moral and social welfare of all classes of its inhabitants.

The Legislative Council are fully sensible of the importance of promoting to the utmost the introduction into the colony of European immigrants, as without them no public works of the magnitude contemplated can be undertaken, not to advert to private enterprise, with any prospect of a satisfactory result. This subject, therefore, which your Excellency has brought so pointedly under notice, shall receive our earliest and best consideration.

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HOPE.

It affords the Council great satisfaction to learn from your Excellency that initiatory steps have been taken for inquiry into, with a view to the reform of, the insolvent law of the colony. The Council indulge the hope that the commissioners which have been appointed by your Excellency for the purpose of reporting on the practical working of this law, and of bringing under review the general statute laws of the colony, will tend to the removal of abuse, to the conservation of property, and to the more satisfactory administration of public justice.

It is no less satisfactory to learn from your Excellency that the measures submitted to and approved by Parliament last session, of locating a considerable body of military settlers of the German Legion in British Kaffraria, has been so far carried out as to inspire the hope that the advantages contemplated by their introduction will be ultimately realized, a body of useful men being established on the more exposed portions of the eastern border.

The Legislative Council desire to convey to your Excellency in an especial manner their satisfaction at the prospect of continued peace, and to express their gratitude to an over-ruling Providence that has averted from this colony the threatened horrors of another barbarian war. The comprehensive, lucid, and satisfactory exposition which your Excellency has been pleased to afford of the existing state of Kaffriland, of the measures taken and of the views entertained by your Excellency of the past, present, and future, has engaged the profoundest attention of the Council, convinced as we are that the ultimate welfare and progress of the colony must depend in a large degree, not to say entirely, upon the state of our relations with the native tribes with whom the colony is in contiguity, and whose social condition must always have an intimate and important bearing upon this colony.

The measures your Excellency has adopted in respect to those people, as well as those which are in contemplation, seem to the Council to be well calculated to secure the objects in view; namely, the spread of civilization, the tranquillity of the colony, and the security of its inhabitants; and we confidently assure your Excellency that nothing shall be wanting on our part to further in every way and to the utmost of our power what is of so much interest to humanity itself, as well as of vital importance to all classes of people in this colony.

The Legislative Council are much gratified by the assurance that the trade and commerce of the colony are in a highly satisfactory state; that its exports and imports have very largely increased; and that, as a consequence, the public finances are in a flourishing condition, and give promise of continuous improvement.

It is no less satisfactory to learn from your Excellency that the measures already devised for the better administration of justice have worked so satisfactorily as to inspire a hope of further progress in the same direction. This important subject shall have the Council's best attention, as also your Excellency's suggestion as to the necessity of increasing the stipends of those public servants whose increased duties and responsibilities, as well as the enhanced price of necessaries, entitle them in that respect to the public consideration.

The Council would fail in the discharge of its duty did it not, in conclusion, give expression to its sense of gratitude to Her Majesty's Government for that paternal care which has been shown for the welfare of this country, and for that prompt and efficient succour which was afforded to its inhabitants at a moment when the danger of barbarian war appeared imminent; and the Council unite with your Excellency in aspirations of fervent gratitude "to that over-ruling Providence which has so wonderfully worked out its own designs," in not only averting the horrors of war, but in preparing the way for the spread of civilization, the establishment of enduring tranquillity, the extension of commerce, and the introduction of the arts of peace throughout this wide and important section of the British realm.

No. 31.

No. 31.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 49.)

Cape Town, April 16, 1857.

(Received June 22, 1857.)

SIR,

(Answered No. 218, July 2, 1857, page 105.)

\* Page 85.  
Enclosure.  
Address.

IN reference to my Despatch No. 45\* of the 8th instant, enclosing a copy of the speech with which I opened the fourth session of the Colonial Parliament, I have now the honour to enclose for your information a copy of a very gratifying address which the honourable House of Assembly brought up this day in reply to that speech.

I have, &amp;c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

# STATE OF THE KAFFIR TRIBES.

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Enclosure in No. 31.

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Encl. in No. 31.

To his Excellency the Honourable Sir GEORGE GREY K.C.B., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, &c. &c. &c.

May it please your Excellency,

We, the speaker and members of the House of Assembly, beg to express to your Excellency our thanks for the gracious speech delivered by you on the opening of the present session of Parliament.

We assure your Excellency that the advantages derived to the public service from your Excellency's attendance to the affairs on the frontiers will far more than compensate the slight inconvenience, if any, which may have been experienced by members of this House from the not earlier opening of the session.

We are glad to learn that many of the enactments passed during the former sessions of Parliament have been found useful in their operation, especially the one enlarging the jurisdiction of the resident magistrates, and establishing periodical courts; and we beg to assure your Excellency that the proposed bill for increasing the jurisdiction of these courts will receive our most earnest and attentive consideration, as well as your Excellency's recommendation to confer the benefits of judicial establishments on the places mentioned by your Excellency, which have not hitherto been enjoyed by them.

We consider, with your Excellency, that the subject of education is one of the most vital importance to the country, and we shall not fail to give it our early and most earnest attention.

We have to express to your Excellency our satisfaction at the appointment of the commissions for considering the insolvent laws, and for examining the statute laws of the colony, from the labours of which we have no doubt much benefit will be derived.

We hope to be able to give the question of public works in all its branches our earliest consideration, and especially those important measures brought to our notice by your Excellency.

The subject of immigration will also receive a full share of our attention.

We are glad to learn that the portion of the Anglo-German Legion lately introduced will make good and useful settlers, whilst, in the event of future hostilities, they will prove a most valuable addition to the force for the protection of the colony.

We congratulate your Excellency on the flourishing state of the finances of the colony, and trust that we shall be enabled to meet your Excellency's views for making provision for increasing the amount of remuneration to meritorious and hard-worked public servants in all cases in which it may be found necessary.

We thank your Excellency for the clear exposition you have laid before us of the state of the affairs in Kaffirland; and we are happy to find that the serious evils which threatened the colony in that quarter have been averted by the decisive and energetic measures adopted by your Excellency for that purpose, sustained as these have been by the prompt and liberal aid afforded by Her Majesty's Government; and we concur in opinion with your Excellency, that the proposed measures for transferring a considerable number of Kaffirs to the colony, and for the settlement of a strong European population in Kaffirland, will prove most beneficial to the colony and to the adjacent settlements and native tribes.

We beg further to assure your Excellency, that we shall gladly support and assist your Excellency in promoting all such measures as may appear calculated, under the blessing of a benign Providence, to ensure the prosperity and welfare of the colony and its inhabitants.

House of Assembly, April 15, 1857.

No. 32.

No. 32.

COPY of a DESPATCH from GOVERNOR Sir GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 53.)

Cape Town, April 22, 1857.

(Received June 22, 1857.)

(Answered No. 217, July 1, 1857, page 105.)

SIR,

HER Majesty's steam transport "Vulcan" sailing for England to-morrow morning, I think it may be satisfactory to you to be informed by this opportunity that everything upon the frontier of this colony continues to progress well, and that there now appears to be no reason to apprehend that the existing peace will be in any way interrupted.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

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HOPE.

No. 33.

No. 33.

COPY of a DESPATCH from GOVERNOR SIR GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 54.)

Cape Town, April 23, 1857.

(Received June 22, 1857).

(Answered, No. 221, July 3, 1857, page 106).

SIR,

Enclosure No. 1.

President of the  
Orange Free  
State to H. E.  
Sir G. Grey,  
April 14, 1857.

Enclosure No. 2.

Mr. Pretorius to  
H. E. Sir G. Grey,  
Mar. 15, 1857.

SINCE I had yesterday the honour of addressing you, I have, I regret to state, received from the President of the Orange Free State a letter (a copy of which is herewith enclosed), informing me that the volksraad of the Trans-Vaal Republic are making preparations to invade the Orange Free State.

2. From the enclosed copy of a letter which reached me a few days since from Mr. Pretorius, who calls himself the President of the Trans-Vaal Republic, you will find that the inhabitants of that state are split into two parties, one headed by Mr. Pretorius, and the other by Mr. J. Schoeman, and that they are so inveterate against each other that it is very improbable that the parties in the Trans-Vaal Republic will be able to unite for the purpose of invading another country, although I think it by no means improbable that a revolution may be attempted in the Orange Free State itself, for the purpose of placing Mr. Pretorius in power there.

3. If he should in this manner succeed in his attempt on the Orange Free State, I do not think he would continue in power long. They have now a free press in the Orange Free State, and amongst its inhabitants are most intelligent men. The people and press of this colony also take a great interest in the affairs of the Orange Free State; I therefore feel confident that no ruler who does not govern with at least an ordinary share of ability, and who does not possess a fair amount of education, and large and enlightened views, will long hold the reins of power there. A man who would administer the government of the Trans-Vaal Republic well in its present condition might altogether fail in such a country as the Orange Free State.

4. You will see, from Mr. Pretorius' letter of the 5th of March, that as Mr. Boshof, the President of the Orange Free State, accuses Mr. Pretorius of dealing in native children, and requests that no supplies of ammunition should be allowed to pass into the Trans-Vaal Republic, so the latter, in his turn, accuses his rival, Mr. Schoeman, of being guilty of similar practices, and requests that I will take measures which would prevent supplies of ammunition from reaching him.

5. I think the whole of the enclosed correspondence continues clearly to show that great difficulties may yet spring from the two republics which we have recently established on our border, although I am still of opinion that no war is likely immediately to take place.

6. I beg to direct attention to the request contained in the letter of the 14th instant, from the President of the Orange Free State, that Her Majesty would conclude a treaty of alliance with that state, containing any reasonable stipulations consistent with that independence which Her Majesty has been pleased to grant to it; and I request that I may be furnished with instructions as to the nature of the reply which you would wish me to return to this application.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. 1 in No. 33.

Enclosure 1 in No. 33.

SIR,

Government House,

Bloemfontein, April 14, 1857.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 20th ultimo, the contents of which I lost no time in communicating to the executive council, and I am requested to express to your Excellency our united thanks for the prompt and kind manner in which your Excellency has attended to my letter of the 26th February last.

In answer to the 2d paragraph of your letter, I am desired to state that it is within our knowledge that the volksraad, in proposing a treaty of alliance with Her Majesty's Government, did so under the impression that, situated as the Free State is in regard to its direct and constant mutual connexion and intercourse in trade and otherwise with Her Majesty's colonies of the Cape and Natal, to both of which as well as several native tribes it lies contiguous, and knowing that Her Majesty feels an interest in the welfare of this



state, and in its continuing to enjoy a well-organized government, Her Majesty would consider that the interests of the said colonies, as also our internal prosperity, would be greatly promoted by such a treaty of alliance as proposed, which might tend, without any interference in the internal government of the one by the other, to foster mutual interests and a good understanding, and at the same time to exercise a beneficial influence over the adjoining tribes and states.

The mad trusted that your Excellency would be able to recommend to Her Majesty such fair and reasonable terms of alliance as, considering our relative positions, influence, and means, would be acceptable, and did not therefore enter into any details regarding its form.

Under these circumstances this council could not undertake to propose any terms as emanating from the volksraad, although it can venture to assure your Excellency that any reasonable stipulations, consistent with that independence which Her Majesty has been pleased to grant to this people, would be readily acceded to.

With reference to Mr. Pretorius and the Trans-Vaal, I beg to inform your Excellency that we have received a letter from the volksraad of Potchefstroom (Pretorius's party) that they have approved of and confirmed his note here in February last, and given orders to have his protest enforced. He had subsequently proceeded to Natal, but the object of his going thither is unknown to us. In the meantime preparations are in progress, and the republicans of that party have been ordered to be in readiness against Pretorius's return to invade the Free State.

We are preparing to meet them, if they should do so, but they seem to place much confidence in the advantage they have over us in their field pieces, of which they are said to possess six. We have been unfortunate in not having as yet received any of those which your Excellency was so kind as to order for us from England in October or November 1855; and as to those belonging to a foreign ship condemned at Port Elizabeth, which we had engaged to buy, they were lost to us by the delay which took place in obtaining your Excellency's sanction, as when that arrived the guns had been forwarded to Europe.

We are sorry to find that your Excellency does not consider yourself justified, under the circumstances laid before you, to stop the issue of ammunition from the Cape Colony to the Trans-Vaal.

Inasmuch as to our minds the present conduct of Pretorius, and of the republic in whose name he acts, is a direct infraction of the stipulations of the Zand River Convention of 16th January 1852, whereby the "system of non-interference" is declared in section 1 to be "binding on both parties," and also inconsistent with the last clause of the Duke of Newcastle's Despatch No. 1, of 9th August 1853, (vide Blue Book, 10th April 1854, page 76,) we had hoped that your Excellency's view would have so far coincided with our own interpretation of these passages as to have justified some direct or indirect expression of your Excellency's disapproval of Pretorius's proceedings, whether by the stoppage of such warlike supplies, or in some other manner most expedient, in your Excellency's opinion.

To his Excellency  
Sir George Grey, K.C.B.,  
&c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) BOSHOFF,  
President Orange Free State.

Enclosure 2 in No. 33.

Encl. 2 in No. 33.

(Translation.)

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

Potchefstroom, March 5, 1857.

BEING convinced of the lively interest taken by your Excellency in the affairs of the inhabitants to the north of the Orange and Vaal rivers, I think it proper that I should acquaint you with certain matters.

It is with great pleasure that I can inform you that our community signalizes itself by a spirit of progress. The new constitution has been enthusiastically received by the entire republic, with the exception of some persons in the district of Zaitpansberg, led by Mr. S. Schoeman, who would gladly act against the 4th article of the convention of the 16th January 1852, concluded with the British Government, and in consequence of which I am forced to take measures against these stubborn persons, in order to enforce their obedience to the law, and in which I have no doubt your Excellency will aid me by not allowing the trade in gunpowder with dealers or inhabitants of this state, except on the production of a certificate signed by me.

The understanding of the natives in regard to us is at this moment as favorable as it ever has been before.

The Chief Seebeli has for a considerable period shown that he is really in favour of peace, has built a church for his subjects, and will be favoured with a good missionary, as on his making this application I have not failed to exert myself with influential and experienced persons to procure a missionary.

Just at this moment there are here some men deputed by the Chief Mahura for the purpose of inviting me personally to confirm the good understanding existing between our state and himself, and to enter into new arrangements to ensure a continuance of peace.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

At the time of my visit to Bloemfontein on the 23d February last, I had also invited the Basuto Chief Mosesh to send an embassy to me at that place, to which invitation he acceded.

As that chief has constantly been on friendly terms with us, it was my object to use my influence with him, and by my interposition to cause the restoration of the large number of horses and cattle which have been stolen by the petty tribes under him from my fellow inhabitants on this side of the Orange River, without having recourse to arms and unnecessary bloodshed.

Mosesh showed himself ready to make this delivery, and was likewise willing to give up a considerable tract of land for our hurgers to reside on. I would have considered myself in a position to have made my fellow inhabitants there share in this advantage, if I had succeeded in making an arrangement with the government of the Orange Free State.

The government of the Orange Free State have up to this moment not been able to do anything with that chief towards restitution of the stolen property.

The guarantee of the British Government having expired on the 23d February 1857, I was forced to interest myself in the concerns of my fellow inhabitants and the other inhabitants of the country between the Orange and Vaal rivers.

I have for some time watched the proceedings of the government of the Orange Free State, having done so the more attentively in consequence of repeated and pressing applications from that portion of my fellow inhabitants who reside on the other side of the Vaal River, and I have observed that the spirit and proceedings of that government is in direct opposition to the freedom so graciously granted by Her Britannic Majesty, and with the object of the convention concluded on the 16th January 1852 between Her Majesty's Commissioners, Messrs. Hodge and Owen, and the late Commandant General A. W. S. Pretorius, my father.

The spirit of oppression is most apparent in the proposed ordinance on the subject of the public press and the right of burghership, which appears in the Bloemfontein Gazette of the 26th December 1856.

But also principally that several inhabitants of the South African Republic are precluded from claiming their lawful property situated between the Orange and Vaal rivers, which persons have in vain applied for assistance from the government there, for the simple reason that there are men in that government who have great interest in withholding of lawful property.

After having in vain attempted to convince the government there that I, as representative of the South African Republic, was entitled to a voice in the government of the country between the Orange and Vaal rivers, I protested against the legality of that administration, by handing the following protest to the volksraad of the Orange Free State:

"To the Right Honourable Volksraad of the Orange Free State.

"Having now, as I consider, given satisfactory proof that I can justly claim the emigrants' lands between the Orange and Vaal rivers, I consider it my duty to protest, in the name of the South African Republic, against the legality of the authority of the administration at present existing here over the emigrants' lands, and guarantee protection to all the inhabitants who still consider themselves bound and hold themselves to the government of the South African Republic, which will not allow that any act of oppression or injury be committed towards them, or any disposal of their persons and property, but that I, in the name of the lawful government, at whose head I am, and which I now represent, declare that I will be at all times ready to maintain any claim to the emigrants' lands, and to protect the lives and properties of the inhabitants, in the hope that reasonable arrangements may be made by which the lacerated feelings of the inhabitants may be healed, and the right of South African Republic to these lands acknowledged.

"And herewith, right honourable gentlemen, I conceive I have done my duty, as protector of the collected inhabitants of the emigrants' lands, and I shall not rest before freedom and the lawful possession of property are guaranteed to the inhabitants."

(Signed) "M. W. PRETORIUS,

President of the South African Republic."

"Bloemfontein,  
25th February 1857."

I have done so with the more confidence as I have not only been pressingly urged by the emigrants of the Orange Free State to protect them against the oppression and capricious acts of the administration at present existing there, but likewise by a considerable number of the inhabitants of English extraction who came from all sides to procure protection from me against the despotic doings of the administration, and complaints of which will no doubt have reached you.

Hoping that this may come to hand in good order.

I have, &c.

(Signed) M. W. PRETORIUS,  
President.

To his Excellency  
Sir George Grey, K.C.B.,  
&c. &c.

# STATE OF THE KAFFIR TRIBES.

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No. 34.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE  
No. 34.

COPY of a DESPATCH from GOVERNOR SIR GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 55.)

Cape Town, April 26, 1857.

SIR,

(Received June 22, 1857.)  
(Answered No. 217, July 1, 1857, page 105.)

THE departure of Her Majesty's steam transport "Vulcan" having been delayed until this morning, I have the honour to state that I last night received reports from British Kaffraria dated 20th instant. The whole country is perfectly tranquil. The measures in progress are all working well, and no doubt appears now to be entertained in any quarter that if the present time is well and wisely used the Kaffir power for evil is permanently and conclusively broken, so that it will be quite possible to put the country in a permanent state of security, which will equally promote the welfare and future happiness of the European settlers and of the native tribes.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere.  
&c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

No. 35.

No. 35.

COPY of a DESPATCH from GOVERNOR SIR GEORGE GREY to the Right Hon.  
H. LABOUCHERE.

(No. 68.)

Cape Town, June 8, 1857.

SIR,

(Received June 29, 1857.)  
(Answered No. 225, August 4, 1857, page 106.)

A good opportunity offering of communication with England, I think it may interest you to hear that affairs upon the frontier and in Kaffraria continue in the most satisfactory state, and that I have no doubt that if the measures in progress are consistently persevered in it may now be said that our way to the final settlement of the difficulties which so long prevailed in this country can be distinctly seen.

2. The colonial parliament is still sitting, but the session is now drawing near its close. The several measures brought forward by the Government have all been passed, either as proposed or with right modifications; and ample supplies have been most cheerfully voted for the public service, including a vote of fifty thousand pounds to be expended in the current and ensuing year in introducing European immigrants into this colony.

3. I think I am justified in saying that the colony of the Cape of Good Hope and British Kaffraria are at the present moment as flourishing and contented as any part of Her Majesty's dominions.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

## Despatches from the Secretary of State.

No. 1.

No. 1.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE to Governor  
Sir GEORGE GREY.

(No. 120.)

SIR,

Downing Street, November 15, 1856.

No. 74., 18 Aug. 1856.  
No. 76., 16 Aug. 1856.  
No. 81., 10 Aug. 1856.  
No. 83., 18 Aug. 1856.  
No. 84., 21 Aug. 1856.  
No. 86., 23 Aug. 1856.  
No. 88., 27 Aug. 1856.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatches of the numbers and dates noted in the margin, relative to the state of affairs amongst the Kaffir tribes on the frontier of the Cape of Good Hope, and the dissension between Moshesh, chief of the Basutos, and the Orange Free State.

I approve of the steps which you have taken for placing the frontier in a state of military security, and of your intention to visit the principal chiefs, in order to satisfy yourself by personal inspection of the state and disposition of each of the tribes.

The accounts from British Kaffraria contained in your latest Despatch of the 27th August are satisfactory; and I trust that your anticipation may be realized, that permanent advantage will be drawn from the recent proceedings of the Kaffirs.

I have pleasure in assuring you of the continued confidence of Her Majesty's Government in your judgment respecting the measures to be adopted for the superintendence and government of the frontier.

I have, &c.  
Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.  
&c. &c. &c.

P.S.—I have further to acknowledge the your later Despatch No. 92. of 20th September, from which I have learnt with satisfaction your confirmed opinion no disturbances amongst the Kaffirs will take place.

No. 2.

No. 2.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE to Governor  
Sir GEORGE GREY.

(No. 143.)

SIR,

Downing Street, December 31, 1856.

No. 84., 27 Sept. 1856.  
No. 85., 29 Sept. 1856.  
No. 86., 27 Sept. 1856.

I HAVE received your Despatches of the numbers and dates noted in the margin.

I am glad to learn that you continue to be of opinion that war is not likely to break out on the frontier of the Cape of Good Hope colony, notwithstanding the concert between Moshesh, chief of the Basutos, and Krelli, paramount chief of the Kaffir tribes; and I consider it very satisfactory and important that the Chief Sandilli had signified his own intention and that of his people to disregard the message sent to him by Krelli.

With respect to the inquiry made by the President of the Orange Free State, whether the Cape government would take it amiss if the government of the Free State were to call for volunteers in the Cape Colony, I would remark, that it is important, as a general rule, to discourage as far as possible the inhabitants of the British possessions from engaging as volunteers in any contest which may arise between the natives and the free states, and I have no doubt that you will have acted upon that principle. But in a state of affairs such as that which now exists on the frontier Her Majesty's Government are willing to entrust to you a large discretion as to the particular measures which it may be advisable to adopt.

STATE OF THE KAFFIR TRIBES.

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Adverting to your remarks on the difficulty created by our conventions with the two free states, I have to refer you to my Despatch No. 137 of 13th December on that subject.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.

No. 3.

No. 3.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE to Governor Sir GEORGE GREY.

(No. 144.)

SIR, Downing Street, January 2, 1857.

I HAVE received your Despatch No. 102\* of the 18th October, containing an account of the province of British Kaffraria, and of the mode in which it is peopled and ruled by the Kaffir tribes.

\* Page 36.

I have to convey to you the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for this valuable communication, and to assure you of their continued support to your efforts for controlling and improving the condition of the native tribes.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.  
&c. &c. &c.

No. 4.

No. 4.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE to Governor Sir GEORGE GREY.

(No. 151.)

SIR, Downing Street, January 25, 1857.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 106\* of 23d October, transmitting a copy of the reply which you had received from the Chief Moshesh to the letter which you had addressed to him relative to his supposed combination with the Chief Kreli in exciting the tribes in British Kaffraria to measures which might ultimately lead to war.

\* Page 49.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.  
&c. &c. &c.

No. 5.

No. 5.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE to Governor Sir GEORGE GREY.

(No. 152.)

SIR, Downing Street, January 26, 1857.

I HAVE received your Despatch No. 105\* of the 20th October, transmitting a memorandum from the Chief Commissioner of British Kaffraria, containing the substance of the Chief Kreli's answer to the message which you sent him with respect to his attempts to excite the tribes in British Kaffraria to measures which must have resulted in war.

\* Page 47.

I concur with you in the interpretation which you have given to the chief's answer, and it may be hoped that his former plans are, for the present at least, abandoned.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.  
&c. &c. &c.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

No. 6.

No. 6.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE to Governor  
Sir GEORGE GREY.

(No. 153.)

SIR,

Downing Street, January 28, 1857.

\* Page 52.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 107\* of 24th October, transmitting a copy of a minute signed by Captain Travers and Mr. Southey of the interview which you held in their presence with the Chief Sandilli, in contradiction to a paragraph on the subject which appeared in one of the Cape papers.

I have, &amp;c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B.,  
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

No. 7.

No. 7.

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE to Governor  
Sir GEORGE GREY, dated Downing Street, March 5, 1857.

(No. 167.)

\* Page 53.

"I HAVE to acknowledge your Despatch No. 111.,\* of the 1st November last, submitting certain further difficulties which had occurred to you on the subject of the conventions with the Trans-Vaal Republic and the Orange Free State; and also your Despatch No. 113, † of the 21st November, enclosing a letter relating to the impression produced on the minds of the natives by the present policy of the British Government in relation to those conventions.

† Page 55.

"As you have been before informed, Her Majesty's Government cannot admit that the general declarations embodied in those conventions amount to a renunciation for all future time of the right to conclude treaties with the native tribes specified therein, under all supposable circumstances.

"They conceive that those declarations are to be taken, as regards the future, as amounting to no more than a general indication of the policy of Her Majesty's Government, namely, to avoid embarrassing these free states by the entertainment of any separate relations with the tribes within or closely bordering on their limits, of a nature to excite well-founded jealousy on their part.

"To that policy they are anxious to adhere, both with a view to the scrupulous maintenance of good faith, and because convinced of its fundamental expediency. Her Majesty's Government conceive that no course of action could be pursued more detrimental to the real interests of this country than that of taking part with native tribes in the collisions which may be expected between them and their white neighbours. And they would recommend that, as far as possible, even the qualified interference of the British local government as an arbitrator should be avoided, unless where distinctly invited to act in that capacity by the disputants on both sides.

"This policy might be combined with the strictest neutrality, no part whatever being taken against the native tribes in such collisions, unless where colonial interests were threatened by them.

"Such neutrality, however, is undoubtedly subject to the stipulations contained in the conventions as to the supply of fire-arms and ammunition. To these, as they are binding on the good faith of this country, Her Majesty's Government must instruct you strictly to adhere.

"Such are the general outlines of the policy to be pursued. But you are well aware that no instructions on such a subject can be given as imperative in extreme cases. I can, therefore, only point out to you, that should you think, on any occasion, a course inconsistent with these instructions to be absolutely called for, your duty is, at all events, not to adopt such a course without prior communication with Her Majesty's Government, unless in case of the most imperious necessity.

"I must, however, again repeat what was stated in my Despatch of the 13th December, already referred to, namely, that deliberate violation of these

treaties by either of the two free states which have contracted them would constitute a ground for insisting on their modification, or refusing to continue bound by them. Should those states by their laws or by the acts of their governments be systematically involved in slave trading, such a violation would evidently be committed. And if private citizens of the states in question should be repeatedly and habitually guilty of similar acts, and the states themselves neglect to prevent them, when urged to do so, whether on the plea of inability to control their own citizens or otherwise, you would be justified in regarding the transgression of private parties thus practically upheld by the state as the transgressions of the state itself.

"With regard to the special question raised at the end of your Despatch No. 111,\* as to the meaning of the geographical expression, "north of the Vaal River," I have only to state that Her Majesty's Government understand it as used in its ordinary and positive sense, and not according to the very illegitimate extension of its meaning which you say is "acted upon," viz., north of "the latitude of" the Vaal River. The obvious spirit of the convention was to disclaim treaties with tribes whose possessions were continuous to or lay scattered among those of the free community called the Trans-Vaal Republic; and it was thought that this intention was sufficiently indicated by the general phrase "north of the Vaal River." With respect to the case of tribes, if such there be, continuous at once with the Trans-Vaal Republic and with the British possessions (as I am informed is the case with the Griquas, located along the right bank of the Vaal and also along that of the Orange below the confluence), you are certainly not prohibited from entering into treaties with them for the security of the British possessions on which they shut; but any such treaty which should contain stipulations hostile or injurious to the Trans-Vaal Republic would be contrary to the spirit of the convention.

"I must add, that on general grounds, and independently of special considerations arising out of these conventions, it appears to Her Majesty's Government, that while it is desirable to cultivate by all practicable means the most friendly relations with native tribes, it can scarcely be politic or expedient, unless in very special cases, to become bound to them by formal and written engagements."

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

\* Page 53.

No. 8.

No. 8.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE to GOVERNOR  
SIR GEORGE GREY.

(No. 172.)

SIR,

Downing Street, March 24, 1857.

I HAVE received your Despatch No. 3,\* of 12th January, transmitting an address to the Queen from the inhabitants of Graham's Town, Cape of Good Hope, expressing their gratitude for the military aid afforded by Her Majesty for the defence of the frontier.

\* Page 61.

You will be so good as to apprise the parties who signed the address that I have presented it to Her Majesty, and that she was pleased to receive it very graciously.

I have, &amp;c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.  
&c. &c. &c.

No. 9.

No. 9.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE to GOVERNOR  
SIR GEORGE GREY.

(No. 183.)

SIR,

Downing Street, April 28, 1857.

I HAVE received your Despatch No. 121,\* of 23d December last, forwarding statements which appeared in the Graham's Town Journal and the Bloemfontein Gazette relative to the capture and alleged sale of coloured children beyond the borders of the British territories in South Africa.

\* Page 55.

CAFE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

In accordance with your wishes, I caused a reference to be made to Sir G. Clerk on this subject, and he corroborates the statement, that he gave permission for the first expedition against the Bushmen, and for the apprenticing of the prisoners taken on that occasion, under the superintendence of Mr. Lowen.

April 14, 1857.

I transmit a copy of a letter from Mr. Lowen, to whom reference was also made, stating the circumstances which led to the expedition, and the measures adopted for the disposal of the prisoners.

Sir G. Clerk has apprized me that he has every reason to believe that the object on that occasion was effected without any loss of life, and he is corroborated in this assertion by Mr. Lowen.

Her Majesty's Government have no information of the two subsequent expeditions which are alleged to have taken place, beyond the statement made in Mr. Lowen's letter in regard to a second expedition of a similar character.

I have, &c.,

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.  
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 9.

Enclosure in No. 9.

Cliff House, Laugharne, Carmarthenshire,  
South Wales, April 14, 1857.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th ultimo (received this day), with copy of a Despatch and Enclosure from his Excellency Sir George Grey, and in reply thereto beg to state that no Bushmen or other coloured people were ever captured in the "territories beyond our borders" by my authority; and I most decidedly deny that any people (Bushman or of any other tribe) were ever sold in the district of Bloemfontein, of which I was commissioner and chief magistrate, nor in any other part of the late Orange River territory, while under British rule.

2. That Bushmen were made prisoners within my district I do not attempt to deny, and if any were killed it was when they resisted, and fired upon the farmers, when attempting to recover horses or cattle stolen by those wild, lawless marauders.

3. In replying to the statements referred to by Sir George Grey, I trust every consideration will be made for any trifling errors I may commit, not having any written documents to which I might refer, but compelled to trust entirely to memory. However, one of the transactions alluded to is so strongly impressed on my recollection that I do not fear my statement being called in question, excepting, perhaps, by persons determined to pervert.

4. For some time the farmers in my district had repeatedly complained to me of the frequent depredations committed by the Bushmen, and others who had deserted from the service of their masters, and joined these lawless bands. Several parties, when in pursuit of stolen property, were fired upon and wounded, not only with poisoned arrows but with ball; and not very long previous to the captures alluded to, a Bushman had been tried and convicted before the combined court for deliberately firing at and hitting a farmer, named, I believe, Van de Merwè, when attempting to recover an ox or oxen stolen by this Bushman and his accomplices.

5. About the time to which Mr. Hoffman refers, he and the other farmers mentioned by him, residing in a thinly populated and wild country, complained that their flocks were nightly robbed of sheep, and horses and cattle carried off. I authorized them to assemble, according to the custom of the country, (there being only an inefficient police force, consisting of a gaoler and two constables,) to follow and recapture their property, if possible; but for some reason, unknown to me, my advice was not acted upon, and the Bushmen were for a time permitted to carry on their depredations with impunity, until Field-cornet Hoffman and his neighbours, driven almost to desperation from their frequent losses, again complained to me, and afterwards to Her Majesty's High Commissioner, under whose orders I acted, and whose instructions I carried out to the best of my ability, and to his satisfaction.

6. About the time first referred to by Mr. Hoffman, &c, at my recommendation, was appointed provisional field-cornet, and by my orders he assembled a small party of farmers, to assist in recovering some stolen property, and to capture the thieves. This was accomplished without, I believe, a single shot having been fired. The Bushmen, men, women, and children, (the number I do not remember,) were brought into Bloemfontein, naked, half starved, and some very old and decrepit. Had there been sufficient room in the gaol, to confine these miserable creatures, many of them old women and children, would have been cruelty; to distribute them amongst the farmers, to be fed, clothed, and made useful, was suggested and adopted; and in carrying out my instructions I took great pains to prevent the separation of a single member of a family from the rest; and thus, in allotting six or seven individuals to a farmer, there were two, perhaps three, generations



of the same family together. Before leaving this case, I may as well here add that I remained for some time in the Orange Free State after the departure of Her Majesty's Special Commissioner, and had an opportunity of seeing some of the Bushmen whom I had thus indentured. Those I saw told me they were happy and contented, and thanked me for having procured for them kind masters, who fed and treated them well.

7. I remember another affair of a similar character. Marauders had plundered some farmer, I believe Mr. Buckley; a party proceeded to recover the property, under the direction of Mr. Hoffman; two men and a woman were, I was informed, shot; but Field-cornet Hoffman, in his statement to me, as well as some of the farmers who accompanied him, affirmed, that it had been done in self-defence, and not until they had been first fired upon: the woman was partially concealed, and mistaken for a man, being at the time armed with a bow and arrows, and in the act of firing at a farmer when shot down.

8. I do not remember a third affair, nor the distribution of a second party of Bushmen. They might have taken place, but they have escaped my recollection. If a second party of Bushmen were brought into town, they were treated in a similar manner to the first.

9. The roving Bushmen in that part of South Africa possess neither flocks nor herds, and therefore none could have been captured from them, unless such as had been recently stolen by them from the farmers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.  
&c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) HECTOR LOWEN.

## No. 10.

No. 10.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE to Governor  
Sir GEORGE GREY.

(No. 201.)

SIR,

Downing Street, June 4, 1857.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatches of the numbers and dates noted in the margin relative to the state of Kaffraria.

Her Majesty's Government have read with much interest your account of the progress of affairs in that country, and the conclusions at which you have arrived in reviewing the unprecedented events which have occurred there. They have also learnt with satisfaction that at the date of your latest reports from the frontier every thing in Kaffraria continued tranquil.

It must have been gratifying to you, in the difficult circumstances in which you were placed, to have received the cordial support of the various authorities, civil and military, whose services were so essential; and Her Majesty's Government are glad to receive your testimony to the prudence and vigour with which those services were rendered.

Her Majesty's Government are at the same time highly sensible of your own zeal and activity in repairing to the frontier whenever your presence there seemed to be required, and of the discretion and firmness with which you have acted on all those occasions.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &amp;c.

## No. 11.

No. 11.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE to Governor  
Sir GEORGE GREY.

(No. 206.)

SIR,

Downing Street, June 5, 1857.

I HAVE to acknowledge your Despatch No. 34\*, of the 20th March last, transmitting copy of a letter from the President of the Orange Free State, with its enclosures, respecting the present political condition of that territory, and also of your answer thereto.

\* Page 71.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

\* See Note.

2. I must refer you to my Despatch No. 203,\* of this day's date, in explanation of the general policy which Her Majesty's Government are of opinion should be adopted towards the independent states. That policy was not adopted in the first instance on light grounds, nor without having taken into consideration probable contingencies. And in pursuance of it I have to instruct you that even the danger of one of these states being annexed by the other through fraud or violence would not furnish sufficient reason for any interference on the part of the Cape Government, otherwise than by proffering the interposition of its good offices. With regard, therefore, to that part of your Despatch to President Boshof in which you invite him to send in proposals for a treaty, I must of course await further Despatches from yourself to know if such proposals have been received by you. But if not, and if the initiative has not been taken on your side, I wish to express my opinion that Her Majesty's Government should enter into no treaty guaranteeing the security of the Orange Free State against its neighbours, or in any way binding us to interference in its internal concerns. Any treaty which may only concern the adjustment of subordinate questions between yourself and the Free State will of course receive the full consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

\* NOTE.

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHÈRE, M.P., to Governor Sir GEORGE GREY, dated Downing Street, June 5, 1857.  
(No. 203.)

"I MUST remind you that the policy of recognizing by treaty the formation of independent states on the frontiers of the British possessions by emigrant British subjects, and thus raising an effectual barrier to the system of continual and indefinite extension of those frontiers towards the interior, has now been for some time established. It was first recognized in the instance of the Trans-Vaal Republic by Sir John Pakington in 1842. It was continued by Her Majesty's then Government in 1853, when they employed Sir George Clerk to negotiate a similar treaty with the inhabitants of the Orange River territory, which it had been resolved to abandon. I think it neither necessary or expedient to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of a policy thus deliberately adopted, and embodied, moreover, in treaties which it is our duty faithfully to observe. It is enough for me to say, with reference to the past, that I believe no course could have been selected which would not have brought with it its own embarrassments and dangers. But I am persuaded that constant change and vacillation in our frontier policy could not fail to be mischievous in the extreme. The independence of the two republics must, therefore, be scrupulously respected by us, not only for the sake of consistency in our policy, but also from the higher motive of a regard for our treaty engagements, so long as the engagements entered into on their part also are faithfully observed; and those treaties should be maintained not only in their letter but in their spirit. We should be careful to respect the territorial limits which they assign to the republics, as far as those are ascertainable according to the fair meaning of their terms, although they fail to define them with accuracy, while at the same time we maintain with firmness the integrity of our own frontier.

"I entertain no doubt of your disposition to cultivate by equitable and considerate treatment the most friendly relations with these republics, and as far as possible to avoid mixing yourself up in disputes which may arise between them and the native tribes in their neighbourhood; and I cannot but indulge the hope that your efforts may be successful. The circumstance to which you refer, that neither of these states possesses any port on the sea coast, and that both are consequently dependent on the British possessions for the supplies of imported goods, (which gives us the power, if we were inclined to use it, of taxing them for our advantage,) may be rendered, I trust, by judicious management, a means of promoting concord rather than a source of quarrel and ill-will. Her Majesty's Government are ready to give the most favourable consideration to any scheme which you may recommend for securing the payment of a fair proportion of the duties so levied to the republics, or for making any other just and reasonable arrangements with regard to them.

"Her Majesty's Government repose great confidence in your proved energy, prudence, and zeal for the public service, which they trust will enable you to meet the difficulties with which your administration has to contend. These difficulties, as I have already indicated, I believe to be for the most part inherent in the circumstances under which the dominions of the Crown in South Africa are placed, and that no system of management, however firm and judicious, can be expected wholly to prevent their recurrence. Your experience and local knowledge will enable you to judge, far better than I can do, by what practical measures the policy which I have attempted to indicate may be best carried into effect. The outlines of that policy I would recapitulate as follows: To observe strictly the letter and the spirit of the treaties into which we have entered with the neighbouring independent states; to maintain the integrity of our possessions on the confines of these states, but to avoid any extension of their limits to which they may justly object; and to forbear from mixing ourselves up with the affairs of the native tribes, except so far as may be clearly indispensable for the protection of Her Majesty's subjects."

MEMORANDUM.

The remainder of the Despatch, relating to the affairs of Natal, is not given with this collection.

3. But in the event of so great a change being effected as the union of the Free States now bordering on our frontier, it will be for Her Majesty's Government to consider how far they will hold themselves bound by all the stipulations of conventions which were made with those states under wholly different circumstances, as separate and independent communities. And I leave it to your discretion to make such use of this last assurance as in your judgment may be advisable.

4. I approve of your answer to the Governor of the Free State on the two first points specified in your Despatch, namely, as to the caution which you declined to give to Moshesh, and as to the territorial pretensions advanced by Mr. Pretorius. As to the third question, namely, whether the sale of arms and ammunition to the Trans-Vaal Republic should be stopped (which you informed President Boshof that you had referred to Her Majesty's Government for decision), I have to state that no information has as yet reached me which would appear sufficient to justify me in authorizing such a step.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B.  
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

## No. 12.

No. 12.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE to Governor Sir GEORGE GREY.

(No. 211.)

SIR,

Downing Street, June 12, 1857.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 36,\* of 25th March, transmitting a copy of a letter from Colonel Maclean, Chief Commissioner of British Kaffraria, reporting the facts which he had collected tending to prove the complicity of the Chief Moshesh in the late excitement of the Kaffir chiefs.

\* Page 72.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B.,  
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

## No. 13.

No. 13.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE to Governor Sir GEORGE GREY.

(No. 217.)

SIR,

Downing Street, July 1, 1857.

I HAVE received your Despatches Nos. 53 and 55,\* of 22d and 26th April, reporting that at the date of the latest advices which you had received from British Kaffraria the whole country was perfectly tranquil, and that everything upon the frontier was going on well.

\* Pages 93 and 97.

Her Majesty's Government have received this information with much satisfaction.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B.,  
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

## No. 14.

No. 14.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE to Governor Sir GEORGE GREY.

(No. 218.)

SIR,

Downing Street, July 2, 1857.

I HAVE received your Despatches of the numbers and dates noted in the margin, forwarding a copy of your speech at the opening of the fourth session of the Cape Parliament, with copies of addresses in reply from the Legislative Council and the House of Assembly.

No. 45., 8 April 1857.  
No. 46., 15 April 1857.  
No. 49., 16 April 1857.

CAPE OF GOOD  
HOPE.

Her Majesty's Government have read these communications with much pleasure and satisfaction. Your speech embraces several matters of great importance to the colony, and shows the prosperous state of its finances; and your exposition of recent events on the frontier, and of the results which may be expected to flow from them, is highly interesting and instructive. The addresses in answer to your speech are very gratifying; and Her Majesty's Government are sensible of the expression of gratitude on the part of the Legislative Council for the measures which they have adopted to secure the peace and welfare of the colony.

I have, &amp;c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.  
&c. &c. &c.

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No. 15.

No. 15.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE to Governor  
Sir GEORGE GREY.

(No. 221.)

SIR, Downing Street, July 3, 1857.

\* Page 94. I HAVE received your Despatch No. 54,\* of 23d April, enclosing a copy of a letter addressed to you by the President of the Orange Free State, stating that the volksraad of the Trans-Vaal Republic were making preparations to invade the Orange Free State.

† Page 103. My Despatch No. 206† of the 5th ultimo answers by anticipation your inquiry with respect to the application of the President of the Orange Free State for a treaty of alliance.

I have, &amp;c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.  
&c. &c. &c.

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No. 16.

No. 16.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE to Governor  
Sir GEORGE GREY.

(No. 225.)

SIR, Downing Street, August 4, 1857.

\* Page 97. I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 68,\* of 8th June, reporting the satisfactory state of the frontier of the Cape of Good Hope, and the prosperity of the colony in general.

Her Majesty's Government have received this information with much pleasure.

I have, &amp;c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., (Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.  
&c. &c. &c.

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## APPENDIX.

APPENDIX.

ARTICLES OF CONVENTION entered into between Sir George Russell Clerk, Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Her Majesty's Special Commissioner for settling and adjusting the affairs of the Orange River territory, on the one part, and the under-mentioned Representatives, delegated by the inhabitants of said territory—

For the District of Bloemfontein :

George Frederick Linde.  
Gerhardus Johannes Du Toit.  
Jacobus Johannes Venter.  
Dirk Johannes Kramfort.

For the District of Smithfield :

Josias Philip Hoffman.  
Hendrick Johannes Weber.  
Petrus Arnoldus Human.  
Jacobus Theodorus Snyman.  
Petrus van der Walt, senior (absent on leave).

For Sannah's Poort :

Gert Petrus Visser.  
Jacobus Groenendaal.  
Johannes Jacobus Rabie.  
Enias Rynier Snyman.  
Charl Petrus Du Toit.  
Hendrick Lodewicus Du Toit.

For the District of Winburg :

Friederick Peter Schnehage.  
Matthys Johannes Wessels.  
Cornelis Johannes Fredrik Du Plooy.  
Fredrik Petrus Sennekal.  
Petrus Lafras Moolman.  
Johan Issak Jacobus Fick.

For the District of Harrismith :

Paul Michiel Bester.  
Willem Adrian Van Aardt.  
Willem Jurgens Pretorius.  
Johannes Jurgens Bornman.  
Hendrik Venter (absent on leave).  
Adrian Hendrik Standen.

on the other part.

## ARTICLE I.

Her Majesty's Special Commissioner, in entering into a convention for finally transferring the government of the Orange River territory to the representatives delegated by the inhabitants to receive it, guarantees, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, the future independence of that country and its government, and that, after the necessary preliminary arrangements for making over the same between Her Majesty's Special Commissioner and the said representatives shall have been completed, the inhabitants of the territory shall then be free. And that this independence shall, without unnecessary delay, be confirmed and ratified by an instrument promulgated in such form and substance as Her Majesty may approve, finally freeing them from their allegiance to the British Crown, and declaring them to all intents and purposes a free and independent people, and their government to be treated and considered thenceforth as a free and independent government.

## ARTICLE II.

The British Government has no alliance whatever with any native chiefs or tribes to the northward of the Orange River, with the exception of the Griqua Chief, Kaptein Adam Kok, and Her Majesty's Government has no wish or intention to enter hereafter into

any treaties which may be injurious or prejudicial to the interests of the Orange River government.

#### ARTICLE III.

With regard to the treaty existing between the British Government and the Chief Kaptyn Adam Kok, some modification of it is indispensable. Contrary to the provisions of that treaty, the sale of lands in the inalienable territory has been of frequent occurrence, and the principal object of the treaty thus disregarded. Her Majesty's Government, therefore, intends to remove all restrictions preventing Griquas from selling their lands, and measures are in progress for the purpose of affording every facility for such transactions, the Chief Adam Kok having for himself concurred in and sanctioned the same. And, with regard to those further alterations arising out of the proposed revision of relations with Kaptyn Adam Kok, in consequence of the aforesaid sales of land having from time to time been effected in the inalienable territory, contrary to the stipulations of the Maitland treaty, it is the intention of Her Majesty's Special Commissioner, personally, without unnecessary loss of time, to establish the affairs in Griqualand on a footing suitable to the just expectations of all parties.

#### ARTICLE IV.

After the withdrawal of Her Majesty's Government from the Orange River territory, the new Orange River government shall not permit any vexatious proceedings towards those of Her Majesty's present subjects remaining within the Orange River territory who may heretofore have been acting under the authority of Her Majesty's Government, for or on account of any acts lawfully done by them, that is, under the law as it existed during the occupation of the Orange River territory by the British Government, such persons shall be considered to be guaranteed in the possession of their estates by the new Orange River government. Also, with regard to those of Her Majesty's present subjects, who may prefer to return under the dominion and authority of Her Majesty to remaining where they now are as subjects of the Orange River government, such persons shall enjoy full right and facility for the disposal and transfer of their properties, should they desire to leave the country under the Orange River government at any subsequent period within three years from the date of this convention.

#### ARTICLE V.

Her Majesty's Government and the New Orange River government shall, within their respective territories, mutually use every exertion for the suppression of crime and keeping the peace, by apprehending and delivering up all criminals who may have escaped or fled from justice either way across the Orange River; and the courts, as well the British as those of the Orange River government, shall be mutually open and available to the inhabitants of both territories for all lawful processes. And all summonses for witnesses directed either way across the Orange River shall be countersigned by the magistrates of both governments respectively, to compel the attendance of such witnesses when and where they may be required, thus affording to the community north of the Orange River every assistance from the British Courts, and giving, on the other hand, assurance to such colonial merchants and traders as have naturally entered into credit transactions in the Orange River territory during its occupation by the British Government, and to whom, in many cases, debts may be owing, every facility for the recovery of just claims in the courts of the Orange River government. And Her Majesty's Special Commissioner will recommend the adoption of the like reciprocal privileges by the government of Natal in its relations with the Orange River government.

#### ARTICLE VI.

Certificates issued by the proper authorities, as well in the colonies and possessions of Her Majesty as in the Orange River territory, shall be held valid and sufficient to entitle heirs of lawful marriages and legatees to receive portions and legacies accruing to them respectively either within the jurisdiction of the British or Orange River government.

#### ARTICLE VII.

The Orange River government shall, as hitherto, permit no slavery or trade in slaves in their territory north of the Orange River.

#### ARTICLE VIII.

The Orange River government shall have freedom to purchase their supplies of ammunition in any British colony or possession in South Africa, subject to the laws provided for the regulation of the sale and transit of ammunition in such British colonies and possessions; and Her Majesty's Special Commissioner will recommend to the colonial

governments that privileges of a liberal character, in connexion with import duties generally, be granted to the Orange River government, as measures in regard to which it is entitled to be treated with every indulgence, in consideration of its peculiar position and distance from the sea ports.

## ARTICLE IX.

In order to promote mutual facilities and liberty to traders and travellers, as well in the British possessions as in those of the Orange River government, and it being the earnest wish of Her Majesty's Government that a friendly intercourse between these territories should at all times subsist, and be promoted by every possible arrangement, a consul or agent of the British Government, whose especial attention should be directed to the promotion of these desirable objects, will be stationed within the colony near to the frontier, to whom access may readily at all times be had by the inhabitants on both sides of the Orange River, for advice and information, as circumstances may require.

This done and signed at Bloemfontein on the twenty-third day of February one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four.

(Signed)

GEORGE RUSSELL CLERK, K.C.B.,  
Her Majesty's Special Commissioner.

(Signed)

JOSIAS PHILIP HOFFMAN, President.

GEORGE FREDERICK LINDE.

G. J. DU TOIT, Field Cornet.

J. J. VENTER.

D. J. KRAMFORT.

H. J. WEBER, Justice of the Peace and  
Field Commandant.

P. A. HUMAN.

J. T. SNYMAN, late Field Commandant.

G. P. VISSER, Justice of the Peace.

J. GROENENDAAL.

J. J. RABIE, Field Cornet.

E. R. SNYMAN.

S. P. DU TOIT.

H. L. DU TOIT.

F. P. SCHNEHAGE.

M. J. WESSELS.

C. J. F. DU PLOOF.

F. P. SENNEKAL, Field Cornet.

P. L. MOOLMAN, Field Cornet.

J. I. J. FICK, Justice of the Peace.

P. M. BESTER, Justice of the Peace.

W. A. VAN AARDT, Field Cornet.

W. J. PRETORIUS.

J. J. BORNMAN.

A. H. STANDER.

# GERMAN EMIGRATION (CAPE OF GOOD HOPE). ---

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons,  
dated 16 June 1858;—for,

“ COPIES or EXTRACTS of any DESPATCHES concerning GERMAN EMIGRATION to the *Cape of Good Hope*, from the Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Governor of the *Cape of Good Hope*, from December 1856 up to the present Date:”

“ And, of any such DESPATCHES since those last presented concerning the GERMAN MILITARY SETTLERS at the *Cape of Good Hope*, up to the present Date.”

Colonial Office, }  
5 July 1858. }

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CARNARVON.

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(*Sir De Lacy Evans.*)

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Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,  
6 July 1858.

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## SCHEDULE.

## I.—GERMAN EMIGRATION.

## DESPATCHES FROM MR. SECRETARY LABOUCHERE.

Number in Series.	DATE.	SUBJECT.	Page.
1	13 December 1856 No. 138.	Transmits Correspondence with the War Department on a Scheme for sending a body of ordinary German Emigrants to the Cape of Good Hope, with Opinion of the Colonial Department that the Plan cannot with prudence be adopted - - - - -	1
2	5 June 1857 No. 204.	Cannot assent to the Plan of German Emigration proposed by the Governor - - - - -	5
3	5 June 1857 No. 205.	Steps have been taken for sending a Party of Female Emigrants to British Kaffraria from Ireland - - -	6

## DESPATCHES FROM LORD STANLEY.

1	4 May 1858 No. 23.	Disallows the German Emigration which has been set on foot by the Governor - - - - -	7
2	5 May 1858 No. 26.	Progress of the Measures for discontinuing the above-mentioned Emigration - - - - -	8
3	20 May 1858 No. 33.	Completion of the Measures for discontinuing the German Emigration. The Number sent is to be limited to 1,600 Adults, and the Contractors, Messrs. Godeffroy, are to receive an indemnity of 5,000 <i>l.</i> - - - - -	9

## DESPATCHES FROM GOVERNOR SIR GEORGE GREY.

1	28 March 1857 No. 33.	Communicates Particulars of a Sale of Land in British Kaffraria for a Price amounting to 1,831 <i>l.</i> , and recommends its Expenditure on the Promotion of Emigration	10
2	25 March 1857 No. 38.	In answer to the Correspondence communicated to him on the Subject of German Emigration, urges the Importance of sending out 1,000 German Families, with their Wives and Children, in order to compensate for the Scarcity of Females introduced with the German Legion - -	10
3	3 December 1857 No. 184.	Makes a favourable Report on the Female Immigrants who have arrived from Ireland - - - - -	12
4	26 December 1857 No. 206.	Reports that in August the Governor had agreed with the Agent of a private Firm at Hamburg, the Messrs. Godeffroy, for sending out about 4,000 Germans to British Kaffraria, at a cost of 50,000 <i>l.</i> for their passages, to be paid for by Bonds secured on the Revenues of Kaffraria.	13

## II.—GERMAN LEGION.

## DESPATCHES FROM GOVERNOR SIR GEORGE GREY.

Number in Series.	DATE.	SUBJECT.	Page.
1	26 January 1857 No. 10.	Arrival of the German Legion. Reports that their Conduct has been good, and their Health excellent. - - -	25
2	29 January 1857 No. 14.	Arrival at Head Quarters of the German Legion. Reports favourably of the Progress of the Measures up to this Date, but deprecates removing as yet any of the British Regiments - - - - -	25
[For No. 38, 25 March 1857, stating that on account of the Paucity of Women the German Legion has been kept under Arms, see page 10.]			
3	4 April 1857 No. 44.	British Kaffraria tranquil. The Germans are taking up their Locations. Their Conduct is satisfactory, and the Experiment of sending them out promises to be successful - - - - -	26
4	8 June 1857 No. 68.	British Kaffraria quiet, and as flourishing and contented as any part of Her Majesty's Dominions - - - - -	26
5	6 July 1857 No. 79.	Transmitting a Colonial Act providing for the Government of the German Military Settlers - - - - -	27
6	29 October 1857 (Separate.)	Resignation of Baron Stutterheim. A recommendation from him that the German Legion should be kept embodied for six months longer, on account of the high Price of Provisions - - - - -	28
7	30 October 1857 No. 104. (Extract.)	The Governor's Explanation of his Reasons for having kept the German Legion under Arms, pointing out especially the Necessity of overawing the Kaffirs - - -	29
8	31 October 1857 No. 105.	Further Evidence of the disturbed State of the Country when the German Legion was embodied - - - - -	32
9	25 November 1857 No. 172.	Application for an additional Chaplain for the German Military Settlers - - - - -	33
10	28 November 1857 No. 173.	Statement of further Reasons for keeping the Germans under Arms, accompanied by Accounts of the violent and uncontrolled Character of some of the Individuals of whom the Legion is composed - - - - -	34
11	27 November 1857 No. 174.	Expressive of a hope that Baron Stutterheim may be induced to return - - - - -	37
12	22 March 1858 No. 27.	Renewed Statement of Reasons for having kept the German Force on Full Pay - - - - -	37

## DESPATCHES FROM MR. SECRETARY LABOUCHERE.

1	26 August 1857 (Confidential.)	Instructions to the Governor to send six Regiments to India, which will leave him four, besides the embodied German Legion - - - - -	39
2	14 September 1857 No. 239.	States Objections to having kept the German Legion on Full Pay at the Expense of this Country; but the Indian Mutiny having in the meantime occurred, instead of ordering immediate Discontinuance. Directions are given that while on Full Pay they must be kept embodied, and do the Duty of regular Troops - - - - -	40

Number in Series.	DATE.	SUBJECT.	Page.
3	6 January 1856 No. 286.	Comments on the various Reasons assigned for having kept the German Legion on Full Pay - - - - -	41
4	3 February 1856 No. 298.	Same Subject as the above. In future, when the Legion is called out for Service, the Reason should be specified distinctly - - - - -	42
5	4 February 1858 No. 301.	The Home Government has done already what was judged necessary; and if an additional Chaplain is appointed to the German Legion, the Expense must be defrayed by the Colonial Government - - - - -	42
6	5 February 1858 No. 305.	Answers the Report of Baron Stutterheim's Resignation, and transmits Decision of War Department that the German Legion may be retained on Full Pay until the 31st of March 1858 - - - - -	43

## DESPATCHES FROM LORD STANLEY.

1	1 March 1858 - No. 1.	Transmits a Correspondence with War Department relative to Estimates for building Houses for the Officers and Men of the Legion, and for providing Tools and Cooking Utensils - - - - -	44
2	26 March 1858 - No. 14.	Transmits a Correspondence with War Department relative to the irregularity of authorising the levy of a Corps of Cavalry to be selected from the German Military Settlers - - - - -	46
3	22 April 1858 - No. 19.	Transmits a Correspondence with War Department relative to a Supply of Boats issued to the German Legion, and states that the Expense must be paid from the Funds provided for the Legion in the Colony - - - - -	47
4	1 June 1858 - No. 26.	In answer to the Governor, explains the Reasons why Her Majesty's Government adhere to the decision that the German Legion must cease to be on Full Pay at the Expense of this Country after the 31st of March 1858 -	50

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COPIES and EXTRACTS of DESPATCHES CONCERNING GERMAN EMIGRATION to the *Cape of Good Hope*, from the Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Governor of the *Cape of Good Hope*, from December 1856 up to the present Date: And, of DESPATCHES since those last presented concerning the GERMAN MILITARY SETTLERS at the *Cape of Good Hope*, up to the present Date.

## I.—GERMAN EMIGRATION.

### Despatches from Mr. Secretary Labouchere.

— No. 1. —

(No. 138.)

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P., to Governor Sir *G. Grey*.

Sir, Downing-street, 13 December 1856.  
I ENCLOSE for your information a copy of a letter from the War Department, and of my reply, on the subject of a proposal for taking steps for sending a large body of ordinary German emigrants to the Cape of Good Hope.

You will observe that the plan has not seemed to me one which could with prudence be adopted, but I have thought it right to put you in possession of the correspondence, and shall be very glad to consider any views which may occur to you on the subject.

Governor Sir George Grey,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *H. Labouchere*.

No. 1.  
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P., to Governor Sir G. Grey.  
13 Dec. 1856.  
War Department,  
15 Nov. 1856.  
Enclosure 1.  
Colonial Office,  
13 Dec. 1856.  
Enclosure 2.

Enclosure 1, in No. 1.

Encl. 1, in No. 1.

Sir,

War Department, 15 November 1856.

I AM directed by Lord Panmure to request that you will lay before Mr. Secretary Labouchere the accompanying extract from a report received by his Lordship from a gentleman, German Professor at the Royal Military College, who, with Lord Panmure's sanction, has mixed among the German soldiers of the British German Legion, to ascertain the source of their hesitation in volunteering to proceed as military settlers to the Cape of Good Hope. Lord Panmure considering that the remarks of Mr. Demmler, the gentleman in question, respecting emigration, were marked by good sense, and an acquaintance with the feelings and character of his countrymen, requested a fuller explanation of his views, which is contained in a letter dated 3d November, which I have also the honour to enclose for the consideration of Mr. Labouchere. His Lordship sees no objection to the detention of Captain Von Gerber, the officer pointed out by Mr. Demmler for an emigration agent, and has given directions that that officer do not embark until further orders. In the meantime, Lord Panmure begs to be favoured with Mr. Labouchere's views on the subject discussed by Mr. Demmler, and more particularly as to whether it will be expedient, on grounds partly stated by that gentleman, to endeavour to follow up the military by a free emigration, without delay, or to sacrifice the present season by consulting the colonial authorities, in which latter case Captain Von Gerber might proceed to the Cape, and be sent back by Governor Sir George Grey, should he consider him a suitable agent for the purpose.

The Under Secretary of State for the Colonies.

I am, &c.  
(signed) *G. C. Mundy*.

Sub-enclosure 1.

Sub-enclosure 2.

Sub-Enclosure 1, to Enclosure 1, in No. 1.

Royal Military College, Sandhurst,  
13 November 1856.

My Lord,

HAVING seen Colonel Lefroy yesterday, I beg now to embody, in a written statement, the points which bear on the subject of free emigration to the Cape of Good Hope.

The number of emigrants from Germany amounts to 150,000 every year. Of these, 80,000 sail from Bremen, 30,000 from Hamburg, and the rest from Rotterdam, Amsterdam, and Havre. The question is, how to divert a portion of this stream to the Cape. I hope I shall be able to answer it to your Lordship's satisfaction.

The present disturbed state of the United States is sure to deter great numbers for some time from seeking their fortune there; and very many will be only too glad to avail themselves of any other fair chance elsewhere, provided the passage be obtained at a reasonable, and, which is of equal importance, a fixed rate, so as to protect the emigrant from the fluctuations of the shipping market. It would, therefore, be requisite for the Government to charter transports for them, just as is done in the case of troops; with this difference, that every emigrant would pay for his passage before going on board the vessel; and, moreover, that he would have to provide for his implements of washing, eating, and drinking, and also for his bedding. The price of the passage to the Cape should be, as nearly as possible, equalised with that which the German emigrant ships charge for America, viz., 6*l.* 7*s.*, exclusive of the costs of agency. This price is found to be remunerating to the German shipowners; and as, in accordance with the laws of the German ports, they are obliged to virtual the ships bound for America for 90 days, whilst the English laws demand only 60, it may be taken for granted that the same price of passage to the Cape with likewise 90 days' virtualing can never be a loss, but may even leave a balance to the Government, which chartered the ships. With a like view of protecting the emigrants from extortion on their arrival at the Cape, the Government might allow them, for the first few months, to purchase their provisions from those stores which are to be established for the Legion, and which could easily be enlarged to the requisite amount. They would be able to pay for land; and the Colonial Government possibly might let those who wish it have part of their land on credit.

To direct the German emigration to the Cape, it is only necessary to make use of the machinery already in existence for this purpose. There are throughout Germany emigration agents licensed by the different governments. It would not, however, be sufficient merely to ascertain their addresses, and to enter into correspondence with them; but it requires a practised hand and professional experience and connexions to work the engine *secundum artem*. I had the honour to apprise your Lordship that I had the good fortune to find in the camp itself one whose character and antecedents render him eminently fit for such an undertaking. I yesterday told Colonel Lefroy that the person designated by me was Captain Baron Von Gerber of the First Jagers, who, during the years intervening between the Holstein war and his obtaining a commission in the British German Legion, was engaged at Hamburg as emigration agent, and is initiated in all the secrets of the craft. Captain Von Gerber has received permission to go as supernumerary officer to the Cape. I would, therefore, take the liberty to submit to your Lordship whether he could not be kept back for some time on full or half-pay, so as to be employed with me in carrying out the plan of free emigration. His free passage and the other advantages would then remain reserved to him, if, any how, circumstances should not allow that plan to be entertained by the Government.

I have pointed out in my former letter the importance of the scheme of free emigration from Germany to the Cape in a military point of view. The free settlers would be quite ready to join in an unpaid force, similar to the landwehr of their own country; the military colonists, as long as they remain enrolled, forming a body of troops corresponding to a regular army. After seven years, the landwehr and the legion would merge together into what might be called the "Colonial guard," after the pattern of the French and other national guards, in which every settler up to a certain age would be obliged to serve. This would sufficiently and permanently provide for the safety of the colony.

The emigrants would be drawn from the very classes which a rising colony stands most in need of. There would be the cattle breeders from Mecklenburg and the marsh lands of Northern Germany, the agriculturists from Silesia, Saxony, and Hanover, and the vine-growers from the south. These latter, one of the most hardworking classes of people in the world, would be a most important acquisition for a colony whose climate is so favourable to the culture of the vine. There would likewise be an admixture of handicraftsmen, such as wheelwrights, carpenters, blacksmiths, &c., besides the indispensable tailors and shoemakers.

Your Lordship will, perhaps, concur in the opinion that the military colonisation would be more efficient and complete, if backed and supported by a large body of free settlers. May I venture farther to express my firm conviction, that without such a support being provided from the very first, the settlement of that portion of the German Legion which left England for the Cape a few days ago, must necessarily end in a signal failure. Most of the men who are going out are without any trade, and without any means, besides the daily sixpence for three years; any sort of remunerating traffic is therefore altogether out of the question, as far as it is to be carried on between themselves; and yet as by their conditions they are confined to certain localities, no other way of earning their livelihood is open to them. Add to this, that there are very many among them who, having never handled a spade in their life, would have everything to learn before their land can be of any

any use to them; and who is to teach them in a community composed of such promiscuous elements as the German Legion at the Cape is made of? The consequences of such a state of things, if not remedied in time, could not but be very sad, and even dangerous; the idlers and scamps will soon flock together; and who can then answer for it, that the colony shall not have to defend itself against men who were to have been its defenders.

Colonel Lefroy yesterday hinted that the Secretary of State for the Colonies would have first to wait for an answer before he could embark in the plan of free settlers following the military colonists. It would certainly have been best if a large number could have been sent at once. The emigrants, especially those of the agricultural classes, whom it is most important to engage, will generally form their decision in winter before sowing their new crops; it may, therefore, be another year before anything can be done on a large scale; and thus the opportunity for placing the settlement, from the very first, on a solid foundation would be missed if no expedient could be found to obviate the evil likely to arise from this delay.

I propose, then, a middle course. Would Mr. Labouchere consent to a limited number of free settlers, not exceeding the originally fixed number of military colonists, being sent out early next spring, so that they may be able to co-operate in the first carrying out of the general plan of colonisation, which they would aid by their moderate capital, their labour, and, most important of all, by their experience of the various pursuits of husbandry and agriculture, and by their example. They will form a nucleus which is sure to draw larger numbers after it; whereas, if the military settlement left to itself should miscarry, the chance of benefiting the colony by the immigration of steady and industrious settlers would be lost for a long time to come.

For this purpose I would beg that Captain Von Gerber and myself may be sent to Germany, to make at once, before it is too late for the season, the necessary arrangements with the local agents for despatching, early in Spring, a limited but well selected number of emigrants to the Cape. An agency of emigration for that colony would then be opened by us in London; and if in the meanwhile a favourable answer arrives from the Colonial Government, further batches of emigrants from those classes which are not bound by the seasons may follow. The agency would engage to collect the emigrants, who would have to pay their passage-money before going on board. The whole plan would entail no expense whatever, either on the Imperial nor on the Colonial Government, for even the preliminary costs would be refunded; and the colony of the Cape would scarcely object to the advantage of receiving a body of German settlers, whose brethren in every part of the world have distinguished themselves by their industry, and by their orderly and quiet habits.

In conclusion I beg your Lordship to believe that I have entered upon my task from no interested motives. The emigration scheme was but an after-thought. If there is any objection to my deriving any emolument from the agency, I am ready for my part to volunteer my services, contenting myself with the pride of having been of use to the countries both of my old and of my new home.

To his Lordship,  
The Secretary of State for War,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) F. Demmler.

Sub-Enclosure 2, to Enclosure 1, in No. 1.

EXTRACT from a LETTER from F. Demmler, Esq., to the Right Honourable Lord Palmerston, dated Royal Military College, Sandhurst, 3 November 1856.

THE following, which was very frequently set forth by the more intelligent sort of men, mostly by such as have a trade, may not be undeserving of your Lordship's particular attention; especially as there is a remedy at hand, which, if properly and speedily applied, will place the whole plan of military colonization on a larger and safer basis, and will serve to silence the outcry which has already been raised, and may again, and more inconveniently be raised, against the scheme as it now stands. The men say that their community would be too small to hold out any prospect of mutual traffic, the more so since, as military colonists, they would be tied to a very circumscribed locality. "You see, sir," one said to me, "I am a shoemaker; my comrade here is a husbandman; now I ask you what has he to give me for my wares, and how am I to get the money to buy what I want, if we are not more of us than are here in the camp?" I was not able, satisfactorily, to meet his question; but as the same point was frequently mooted by others, I began to consider the matter more seriously; and I hope I am not travelling too far out of my domain in proposing to your Lordship a plan of supporting and completing, by an emigration on a grand scale, the military colony which is intended to be formed by the German Legion. This emigration would be effected without any expense to the public, in the general way of business, merely by diverting to the Cape a part of the regular yearly stream of emigrants which pours from Germany through Hamburg to America. They would pay for their passage; they would pay for land, if it be granted at a cheap rate; and the young men would readily consent to enlist in an unpaid force analogous to that which they have known at home under the name of Landwehr, the British German Legion forming for some years the regular army, as far, at least, as a regular army may be wanted. The colony, thus composed of industrious settlers, who bring capital and labour with them, may not only be expected in a very few years to prosper, but also to be able to defend itself without any further military aid beyond its own "Colonial Guard." If your Lordship is pleased to entertain this proposal, I shall

be most happy to furnish the minutest details as to how the matter is to be managed, having had the good fortune to meet in the camp itself with one whose character and antecedents render him the fittest agent for such an undertaking. Your Lordship would then be provided, before the beginning of the season, with the most positive proofs that the German Legion should be followed next spring by such a body of German emigrants as will defy any further attacks of the Kaffirs. And likewise would the prospect of being followed and supported by a large German emigration be calculated, even at the eleventh hour, to attract many of the best men of the Legion into the ranks of those going to the Cape; employment also might be found in the colonial "Landwehr" for a number of officers, some of the best men among whom will otherwise be soon exposed to all the misery of destitution in a foreign country.

I should have sent in this statement sooner, but I was suffering from very severe indisposition, which in Colchester already added to the difficulties with which I had to contend. It remains to me only to express a hope that, although I have not been successful in the main object of my journey, the exertions which I have made fairly to arrive at the real state of affairs may have met with your Lordship's approval.

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Enclosure 2, in No. 1.

Encl. 2, in No. 1.

Sir,

Downing-street, 13 December 1856.

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Labouchere to acquaint you that he has had under his consideration your letter of the 15th ultimo, accompanied by a report from Mr. Demmler, a German professor at Sandhurst, upon the causes which may have tended to reduce the number of volunteers from the German Legion to the Cape of Good Hope, accompanied by a suggestion that means should be taken to encourage a resort of ordinary German emigrants to the same destination.

I am desired to acquaint you in answer, that Mr. Labouchere has given his best attention to this subject, but that he fears that there will be many serious difficulties and risks in interfering to divert to the Cape of Good Hope part of the vast stream of annual emigration from Germany to North America. Without entering into a statement of all the objections which present themselves to such a plan, I am desired to enclose an extract of a report from the Emigration Commissioners, which exhibits some of the reasons why Mr. Labouchere considers that the proposed plan could not with prudence be adopted. I am to express his opinion, that at all events it would be premature to take any steps for the purpose until there shall have been time to receive some account of the welfare of the military settlers who are now proceeding to the colony, and also a report of the opinion of Governor Sir George Grey upon the project. The correspondence will be communicated to him for his information, and with a view to being apprised of any views which he may form upon the subject.

Colonel Muody,  
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.  
(signed) H. Merivale.

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Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure 2, in No. 1.

EXTRACT of REPORT from the Emigration Commissioners to H. Merivale, Esq.,  
dated 27 November 1856.

WE proceed to submit to Mr. Labouchere the observations which occur to us; first, in respect to the probable success of the scheme; and, second, in respect to its probable cost.

1st. Mr. Demmler assumes that the German emigrants who now proceed to America, and whom he hopes to divert to the Cape, are generally possessed of some capital; and it is obvious that the whole success of the scheme must depend on that point. But the information which reaches us from various quarters tends to show, that although among the German emigrants there are many possessed of some capital, the great bulk in that, as in every large emigration, is composed of persons dependant on their daily toil. The latter are the men who would be most likely to be induced to change their destination from America to the Cape; but to send out such persons would but increase the difficulty against which it is sought to guard, would multiply the number for whom the Government must find either labour or food, and would intensify whatever danger is to be apprehended from their discontent. The man with capital, who would generally be also a man of greater intelligence, would be little likely to give up the prospects offered by Canada or the United States or Australia, attainable at no great additional cost for passage, to settle on a remote frontier of the Cape colony, exposed to the incursions of Kaffirs. We fear that whoever might be employed to collect emigrants in Germany, in execution of this scheme, would either fail altogether or would be induced to accept a class of persons little likely to subserve the end in view.

2d. In regard to the expense, Mr. Demmler assumes that the cost of a passage to the Cape, and of agency, would not be greater than the cost of a passage from German ports to North America, viz. 6*l.* 7*s.*, because the German Passenger Act requires vessels proceeding to North America to be victualled for 90 days; but the English Passenger Act requires vessels proceeding to the Cape to be victualled for 105 days, on a scale more expensive, we believe, than the German, and also restricts to a greater extent the number that may be carried.

Sub-enclosure.  
27 Nov. 1856.

carried. In our letter to Mr. Peel, of 6th of August last (of which a copy was sent to the Colonial Office on the following day), will be found a statement of our reasons for considering that between 9*l.* and 10*l.* was not an unreasonable price for passages to the Cape; and it will be seen that the average price at which we chartered ships for that colony was at the cheapest season 7*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.* The emigration most analogous to that now proposed was one conducted in 1845 by Mr. J. Marshall, a gentleman of great experience in Australian emigration. In that case, acting under instructions from the colony and the Secretary of State, we put out an advertisement for tenders for the collection and conveyance to the Cape of a certain number of emigrants of specified descriptions. The lowest tender was from Mr. Marshall, and the contract price was 10*l.* 8*s.* Looking to the increased price of provisions since that date, which would nearly counterbalance the general reduction of freight, we do not think it would be possible to defray the expense of the proposed emigration, including the conveyance of the people from Germany to England, at a lower rate.

— No. 2. —

(No. 204.)

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P., to Governor Sir *George Grey*.

Sir,

Downing-street, 5 June 1857.

I HAVE received your despatch, No. 38,\* of the 25th of March, advertizing to the limited proportion of women who have accompanied the German Legion, and recommending on that ground the project of sending out a further body of German emigrants, consisting of 1,000 families.

You mention that it was supposed that the soldiers of the German Legion were to be sent out with their wives and families. This was done. The wives and families of the Germans were sent out with them, and not only was no effort spared to bring over from Germany, and despatch the wives of such of the soldiers as were already married, but every encouragement was given to the others to marry. About 100, I understand, did accordingly marry in this country, and were accompanied to the colony by their wives.

I entirely agree with you as to the importance of endeavouring to maintain in every community a due proportion of the female sex, but I fear that this object cannot be attained through the means contemplated in your present despatch.

If it is to be done by public funds, the expense would be enormous. Each family may be reckoned at not less than five persons, and for the purpose in view, as large a proportion of them as possible should be grown up. The cost of the sea passage alone of such a body of people from this country to Kaffraria, could scarcely be less than 50,000 *l.*, and might probably be more. There would likewise be the expenses of agency in Germany, of the transit from thence to the place of embarkation, and of the accommodation of the immigrants and transport on their first arrival in the colony, all which charges would assuredly reach an amount of from 10,000 *l.* to 20,000 *l.* The proposed dwellings for so many families are not likely to cost less than 30,000 *l.* On the whole I cannot doubt that 100,000 *l.* is the very smallest amount for which 1,000 German families could be taken to and located in British Kaffraria at the public expense. Her Majesty's Government would not feel justified in submitting to Parliament a proposal for the execution of such a scheme by means of so large an expenditure from the funds of this country.

On the other hand there are manifest objections to endeavouring to invite to the Cape some portion of the annual emigration from Germany by means of notices from the British Government, unaccompanied by any pecuniary aid. Probably no emigrants would come if they really understood that they were to receive no public assistance; but the attempt might lead to much correspondence and negotiation with persons who never could be brought to believe that the British Government was recruiting for emigrants without meaning to do anything for them; and any casual settlers who might be induced by such notices to proceed to Kaffraria, would fancy that they had special claims on the Government, and would loudly complain if their success and prosperity fell short of their own expectations.

There would also be a great risk as to the kind of emigrants (if any) who would be obtained, and the difficulties of selection would be much increased by the fact that only those families would be useful which comprise adult single females. The temptation which this would offer to frauds and misrepresentations, will be obvious to all who are familiar with the conduct of emigration.

No. 2.  
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M. P., to  
Governor Sir G.  
Grey.

5 June 1857.

\* Page 10.



On the ground therefore both of the large expense and of the difficulty of execution, I cannot accede to the proposal of sending out a second and private German emigration, in order to promote the marriage of the Germans of the Legion; but I quite agree with you, as I have already said, in the importance of procuring in every country a due proportion of female to male inhabitants. British Kaffraria appears by your latest despatches to exhibit signs of making a new start in prosperity; considerable sums have been realised from the sale of lands; and I think that they cannot be better expended than in sending out respectable single females. In Ireland it has been ascertained by experience that strong, healthy young women of perfectly good character, can be readily obtained; and I shall instruct the Emigration Commissioners to take an early opportunity of sending out a party of such emigrants. Into the details I will not enter here, as they will be better placed in my answer to your despatch, recommending that the proceeds of the land sales at King William's Town should be expended in emigration. I will merely say that I have no reason to doubt that a considerable supply of respectable young women can be furnished from this kingdom, and that it is evident that an emigration of that kind must have a far greater effect on the proportion of females to the community, than a much larger one composed of married couples and their children.

In the meanwhile I am glad to perceive from a later despatch from you, No. 44\*, of the 4th of April, that the German military settlers were taking up their several locations, that their conduct was entirely satisfactory, and that you felt no doubt that the experiment of sending them to South Africa would prove successful. Baron Stutterheim expresses confident anticipations to the same effect in a report to Lord Panmure, which has been communicated to me from the War Department, and in which I may add, he speaks very gratefully of the interest shown by you in the Legion, and of the favourable reception given to it by the authorities and inhabitants generally. I sincerely hope that these expectations may be realised, and that the settlement of this body of Germans, who attached themselves to the fortunes of England at a time when their services were much required, may both maintain the tranquillity of the frontier, and promote the occupation and prosperity of the territory in which they are established.

Governor Sir George Grey,  
 &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
 (signed) H. Labouchere.

— No. 3. —

(No. 205.)

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable H. Labouchere, M.P., to  
 Governor Sir George Grey.

Sir,

Downing-street, 5 June 1857.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 35†, of the 23d of March, accompanied by a return of a sale of lands at King William's Town, which had produced a sum of 1,831*l.*, and which you expect shortly to be followed by another sale of nearly equal amount.

I quite agree with you in opinion that the proceeds of these sales, together with any future revenue which may accrue in the same manner, should be expended in the introduction of immigrants into British Kaffraria. But seeing the urgent representation which you have made in your other despatch, No. 36‡, of the want of a large proportion of females in the European population already introduced there, and considering that, for the reasons explained in my answer to that despatch, I am unable to concur in the scheme of supplying that want by the importation of a large number of German families, I think that it will be essential that the first emigration accomplished by the Land Revenue should be composed, as largely as possible, of single females of good character. There is great difficulty, in England and Scotland, in meeting with large numbers of respectable young women who are willing to emigrate alone to the colonies, but the same difficulty is not felt in Ireland; considerable parties of orphans and other single females have, at different periods, been obtained from thence, and have proved to be strong and healthy, and of respectable character.

I shall instruct the Emigration Commissioners to take steps for collecting a body of such emigrants, and for sending them out in a ship chartered to proceed to

Buffalo

\* Page 26.

No. 3.

Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P., to  
 Governor Sir G.  
 Grey.

5 June 1857.

† Page 10.

‡ Page 10.

Buffalo Mouth. I adverted to the question whether the ship should be engaged to call at the Cape for orders, but such a course would enhance the price, and moreover might unsettle the minds of the emigrants; and I have thought it best, therefore, that she should proceed direct. The regular mails will afford opportunity of giving you ample notice of the probable time of her arrival. She is likely to be despatched in about two months from the present time.

It will be necessary to send out a small number of married couples in the same vessel, in order to contribute to good order on board.

I shall rely on your usual judgment and energy to provide for the proper reception of the emigrants. There should be some place in which they can be lodged and maintained on first landing, and steps should be taken to facilitate their procuring employment in service, or finding other honest means of earning a livelihood, until they shall have become absorbed in the population. Incidental charges of this kind form part of the legitimate expenses of every emigration, and should be defrayed out of the Land Revenue of British Kaffraria.

Governor Sir George Grey,  
 &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
 (signed) H. Labouchere.

## Despatches from Lord Stanley.

— No. 1. —

(No. 23.)

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord Stanley, M. P., to  
 Governor Sir George Grey.

Sir,

Downing-street, 4 May 1858.

I HAVE carefully considered your despatch, No. 206 \*, of the 26th of December last, reporting that you had taken measures for effecting a large German emigration from Hamburg to British Kaffraria.

Before stating the decision of Her Majesty's Government, it will be convenient briefly to recapitulate the previous correspondence.

In a despatch of the 13th† of December 1856, my predecessor communicated to you a suggestion which had been made by a German professor to the War Department for a German emigration. He supplied you with a detailed examination of the scheme, and pronounced his opinion against it, but stated that he would be willing to consider any views which might occur to you on the subject.

In an answer dated the 25th‡ of March 1857, you expressed your opinion, founded on the small proportion of females who had come out with the Legion, that it would be advisable to introduce about 1,000 German families.

Mr. Labouchere, however, did not think that this measure would accomplish its object. In a reply to you, dated the 5th§ of June, entering upon reasonings which embraced the whole subject and fully showed the grounds of his conclusions, he condemned and rejected the proposal.

The next despatch which arrived from you is the one now before me, dated the 26th of December 1857, announcing that, in the previous month of August, you had entered into an agreement with the agent of a private firm at Hamburg for sending out about 4,000 Germans to British Kaffraria, at a cost of 50,000 £. for their passages, to be paid for by bonds, bearing 6 per cent. interest, secured on the revenues of that territory.

You mention in this despatch that, having been consulted on the plan, and being backed by the opinion of the Secretary for War, you never doubted that it would be carried into effect, and that you had made all your arrangements before you were undeceived by the receipt of Mr. Labouchere's despatch of the 5th of June. I am very unwilling to make statements at variance with any impression which may exist in your mind; but I think you will find, on examination, that upon these particulars you are under some misapprehension. The plan which was suggested to the War Department in 1856 by a private individual, was one for attempting to divert some proportion of the annual unassisted

No. 1.  
 Right Hon. Lord  
 Stanley, M. P., to  
 Governor Sir G.  
 Grey.  
 4 May 1858.  
 \* Page 13.

† Page 1.

‡ Page 10.

§ Page 5.

German emigration from other countries to the Cape of Good Hope, and contemplated no public expenditure. It was therefore very different from the plan which you have adopted. The Secretary of State for War referred it for consideration to this department, where it was deemed impracticable. With regard to the question of time, I find that Mr. Labouchere's despatch is included in a list of despatches acknowledged by you on the 22d of August, and, indeed, that the mail steamer by which it was conveyed reached the Cape on the 27th of July; and that it was only on the 19th of August that you apprised the agent of the Hamburg firm at the Cape that you were prepared to enter into an arrangement for at once introducing German immigrants, which arrangement was accordingly concluded on the 23th of the same month. It can hardly be said therefore that the measure was settled before you knew the views of the Secretary of State; on the contrary, it would appear that it was after learning his disapproval of it that an agreement was concluded for carrying it into effect without his authority; and it was not until four months afterwards that your present despatch was written, conveying to him the intelligence that his decision had been set aside.

I concur in the conclusion of my predecessor. The course of following up the introduction of the German Legion, by sending to the same district a large additional number of German emigrants, unfamiliar with English habits or English speech, appears to me one of, at least, questionable policy. Nor does it seem clearly suited to fulfil its intended purpose; for the scarcity of wives for the German Legion is hardly to be cured by sending out a number of married couples from Germany, accompanied by children so young as most of them must be if the majority of the parents be of an age to contend with the difficulties of a new settlement. And inasmuch as there is, in the finances of British Kaffraria, an annual deficiency of 40,000*L.*, which has only been supplied hitherto by a yearly grant from Parliament, the bonds to be nominally secured on the revenue of that territory must, in fact, depend, for principal and interest, on the continuance of Parliamentary aid from Great Britain. Here it is necessary also to remark that the sum of 50,000*L.*, to be paid for passages, would be far from completing the expenditure. Transport is promised to the emigrants, for themselves, their families, and their baggage, from the place of landing to the place of settlement; and also numerous small lots of land, both rural and in villages, which must entail expensive surveying. Nor is it likely that, in practice, the assistance to be granted to inexperienced persons brought out into an entirely new country could be limited to the objects for which it was thus expressly promised beforehand.

Looking at all these considerations, and especially seeing that the pecuniary consequences of the measure directly concern this country, Her Majesty's Government have felt bound to adhere to the policy which had been already communicated to you by my predecessor. I have apprised the Messrs. Godeffroy, of Hamburg, of the nature of the resources of British Kaffraria, and have instructed them that the emigration must be discontinued. I am anxious to effect this in the manner most considerate towards the Messrs. Godeffroy, and best calculated to avoid hardship to individuals; but the measure itself is indispensable. Of the details of the steps taken for the purpose, you shall be informed when they are further advanced; but if some inconvenience should unavoidably occur, I must observe that it will have been owing to the unfortunate course taken by yourself, of ordering an extensive series of operations to be commenced in Europe without the knowledge or the authority, and against the previously expressed decision of the Queen's Government.

Governor Sir George Grey,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) Stanley.

— No. 2. —

(No. 26.)

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord Stanley, M. P., to Governor Sir George Grey.

Sir,

With reference to my despatch of yesterday's\* date, acquainting you that measures were in progress for discontinuing the German emigration to Kaffraria,

Downing-street, 5 May 1858.

No. 2.

Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M. P., to Governor Sir G. Grey.

5 May 1858.

\* Page 7.

fraria, I have to inform you that after communication with the Messrs. Godeffroy, it has been settled that they shall limit the number of emigrants sent out by them to 1,600 adults, and that a considerable sum, of which the amount as yet awaits the approval of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, shall be paid to them as an indemnity to cover all charges and losses which they may incur by relinquishing the remainder of their contract.

The particulars of the arrangement will be communicated to you by the next mail.

Governor Sir George Grey,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) Stanley.

— No. 3. —

(No. 33.)

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord Stanley, M. P., to Governor Sir George Grey.

No. 3.  
Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M. P., to Governor Sir G. Grey.  
30 May 1858.  
\* Pages 7 and 8.

Sir,

Downing-street, 20 May 1858.

WITH reference to my Despatches, No. 23 \* of the 4th instant, and No. 26 \* of the 5th instant, I have the honour to inform you that on receiving notice that the German emigration from Hamburg must be discontinued, Mr. Godeffroy, the head of the firm of that name, repaired to this country.

He represented that in full reliance on the agreement concluded with you as High Commissioner of British Kaffraria, the Messrs. Godeffroy had entered into arrangements, and signed contracts, for procuring and sending out 4,000 adults; that some of them had been actually despatched, and that ships were named for the conveyance of others; that contracts had been made for their provisions; that numerous agents in various German states had been retained; and in fact that in virtue of the powers derived from such high authority, the Messrs. Godeffroy had signed and circulated all over Germany notices which, not only would render them legally liable for any damage proved to be suffered by any individual, but would seriously compromise their good name unless they were able to satisfy all equitable claims, and to prevent complaint.

After inquiry and discussion, first at the emigration office and afterwards at this department, I came to the opinion that partly in order to complete the transactions which were most advanced, and partly for the sake of diminishing the amount of dead loss to be incurred by the public, a number of 1,600 adults must be allowed to be sent out; and then that a sum of 5,000 £. should be paid to the contractors to cover all expenses which might fall upon them from the abandonment of the remainder of the contract.

A much larger sum was originally suggested by Mr. Godeffroy, but eventually the proposed indemnity was reduced to the above mentioned amount. It was not without reluctance that I resolved to recommend a payment of so considerable a sum without any direct service in return. But the consideration which weighed chiefly with me was the great amount of wholly indefinite expenditure, contingent upon every additional number of German emigrants introduced into the colony, and the absolute necessity of endeavouring to protect its future revenues from such extensive demands.

I have the honour to inform you that the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury have concurred in the proposed course; and that it has therefore been agreed to pay to the Messrs. Godeffroy, out of the vote for British Kaffraria, the sum of 5,000 £., on condition of their limiting the number of emigrants sent out under your arrangement to 1,600 adults, of whom the despatch is to be completed in the course of the present year, and of their undertaking to bear without further claim on the Government all charges and losses which may arise out of this reduction of the emigration.

Governor Sir George Grey,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) Stanley.

## Despatches from Governor Sir George Grey.

— No. 1. —

(No. 35.)

No. 1.  
Governor Sir G.  
Grey to Right Hon.  
H. Labouchere,  
M.P.  
23 March 1857.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Honourable  
H. Labouchere, M.P.

King William's Town, 23 March 1857.

(Received, 27 May 1857.)

(Answered, No. 205, 5 June 1857, p. 6.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to enclose for your information the return\* of a sale of land in King William's Town, which took place on the 14th instant, from which you will see that 35 town lots sold for the sum of 1,831*l.* sterling, being at an average of about 52*l.* per lot, or of 406*l.* per acre.

2. I will direct the authorities here to pay over this sum of 1,831*l.* into the Commissariat Chest; and the proceeds of the next land sale shall in like manner be paid into the Commissariat Chest. These payments will jointly produce a sum of upwards of 3,000*l.*, which I estimate will be about the probable cost of sending a ship-load of British emigrants to the Buffalo Mouth; and I have earnestly to request that you will direct the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners to endeavour without delay to procure for British Kaffraria a ship-load of British emigrants, to be forwarded to the Buffalo Mouth, where every preparation shall be made for their reception. At the present moment, the Kaffir population are evidently either becoming absorbed amongst the Europeans or are succumbing before us; and it becomes of the utmost consequence for the final settlement of the Kaffir question, and of the difficulties which have for so long harassed this frontier, to increase as speedily as possible the number of Europeans in this country, which is capable of supporting an unusually dense population.

3. I beg therefore, in the most pressing terms, to request that for the present a ship-load of emigrants may be dispatched every two months from England to the Buffalo Mouth. These emigrants should consist, in as far as practicable, of married persons with families, and should be composed either of artisans or agricultural labourers, both of which classes of person will find ready employment here.

4. This province will very soon possess a very considerable land fund, the whole of which shall, from time to time as it accrues, for the present, be paid into the Military Chest, for the purpose of meeting the expense of the proposed emigration.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.,  
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) G. Grey.

— No. 2. —

(No. 38.)

No. 2.  
Governor Sir G.  
Grey to Right Hon.  
H. Labouchere,  
M.P.  
25 March 1857.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Honourable  
H. Labouchere, M.P.

King William's Town, 25 March 1857.

(Received, 27 May 1857.)

(Answered, No. 204, 5 June 1857, p. 6.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 138,\* of the 13th of December last, transmitting the copy of a correspondence with the War Department, on the subject of sending a body of German emigrants to this province.

2. I ought

\* Page 1.

\* N. B.—The notice is not printed, as it only supplies particulars of the sale.

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2. I ought to point out, that when it was proposed to send out the soldiers of the German Legion to this country, it was expressly stated that they would be accompanied by their wives and families; at least the general impression created was that the German military settlers would be accompanied by a fair proportion of females.

3. The facts are, however, that whilst 2,300 soldiers of the German Legion have landed in this colony, with a very unusually large proportion of officers or gentlemen cadets, only 330 females have accompanied them. The results of this will be disastrous to the whole community; it has created considerable alarm in the minds of the native population; great immorality will result from it, and great expense; for it would be impossible under such circumstances to detain the German military settlers in their villages as ordinary settlers. They will roam over the whole country in search of females, and will probably be frequently murdered by the native population, whilst as a military force they will be quite useless for the defence of the colony.

4. The only way in which these evils can be prevented, until a due proportion of female emigrants have been sent out to the country, is, to keep the settlers under arms as soldiers; and this has accordingly been done.

5. During the first year of their service in South Africa the additional expense on this account will not be very great, because they are entitled during that period to draw a free ration; but in all future years the expense of such a proceeding will be very large; and yet, unless females are sent out, it must necessarily be had recourse to.

6. I beg therefore to recommend that Lord Panmure's suggestion of sending German emigrants to this country should be carried out with the least possible delay.

7. The best mode of doing this would, in my belief, be, to provide a free passage from Germany for one thousand (1,000) heads of families, with their wives and children, the Government undertaking to give to each of these heads of families a small building allotment, either in, or in the vicinity of, some village in South Africa, together with one acre of land in the neighbourhood of the same place. I purposely use the general terms of South Africa, in order that no dispute regarding their construction might afterwards arise; but these families would, in fact, be located in the vicinity of some of the German villages which have recently been established, unless some difficulties, now unforeseen, presented themselves.

8. I have called upon Baron Von Stutterheim for a report on this subject, a copy of which I have the honour to enclose. He names the agents who would be best qualified to carry the proposed arrangements out; and I should recommend the employment of these gentlemen, because they will be the means of obtaining, as the proposed emigrants, a very great number of the relations and friends of the German military settlers who have already been located in British Kaffraria.

9. The vessels which bring these emigrants out should be chartered to call at Cape Town for orders, and to proceed from thence to East London (the Buffalo Mouth), there to land the emigrants.

10. Every requisite for their reception already exists in this country, and the sooner they are sent out the better. The German villages are now for the most part finally settled, and the plan of military colonisation is so far working most satisfactorily, and will continue to do so, if the proposed emigrants are sent out; if not, great additional expense must be incurred, and it is very doubtful whether the whole plan may not ultimately fail in attaining many of the objects which it was hoped would be gained from it.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.,  
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) G. Grey.

Enclosure.  
21 March 1857.

Encl. in No. 2.

Enclosure in No. 2.

(No. 4.)

EXTRACT of LETTER from Baron *Statterheim* to Governor Sir *G. Grey*, dated Pensioners' Village, King William's Town, 21 March 1857.

It has afforded me the greatest satisfaction to learn that it is your Excellency's intention to bring emigrants, say 1,000 families, from Germany to this country with free passages to the Buffalo Mouth, and with a grant of a building allotment, and an acre of ground in or near one of the German settlements, to each head of a family.

Having given the subject my most serious attention and mature consideration, I venture to urge it as my opinion, that the accomplishment of such a scheme will be alike beneficial to the colony and to Great Britain, giving additional impulse to the progress of civilisation to the one, and enriching and increasing the commerce of both.

I am persuaded that upon such conditions a great number of respectable families will emigrate from Germany, and come to this country with a very fair chance of success.

The present settlers will afford a most desirable nucleus, and the German emigrants being generally of steady and industrious habits, will be found peculiarly fitted to develop, by perseverance, the various profitable agricultural resources of which the country is capable, and for which it will become more and more notorious as soon as there is a greater abundance of labour.

I observe, however, in the papers which your Excellency did me the honour to submit for my perusal the name of Professor Demmler.

I would, on political and other grounds, strongly recommend as agents on the continent the house of Messrs. Godeffroy and Son in Hamburg, and that of Albert Varrentrapp, in Frankfort-on-the-Maine.

As agents in England, my past experience and high appreciation of their unremitting attention and energy, prompt me to suggest Messrs. Churchward & Co., 56, Lombard-street, London, who, above all others, assisted most effectually in importing volunteers for the late German Legion, and whom I am convinced will be as sanguine and energetic in forwarding the views of Government upon this as upon former occasions.

— No. 3. —

(No. 184.)

No. 3.  
Governor Sir G.  
Grey to Right Hon.  
H. Labouchere,  
M. P.  
3 December 1857.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir *George Grey* to the Right Honourable  
*H. Labouchere*, M. P.

Cape Town, 3 December 1857.

(Received, 8 February 1858.)

Sir  
I HAVE the honour to report, that the "Lady Kennaway," with emigrants for British Kaffraria, arrived at the Buffalo Mouth, and that the emigrants were all safely landed on the 23d ultimo.

2. I enclose the copy of a private letter from Colonel Maclean, in which you will see he speaks highly of the class of emigrants on board the "Lady Kennaway." We have yet, however, had but little experience of them.

3. I regret to add, that two days after the emigrants were landed the "Lady Kennaway" parted from her anchors, and went on shore a complete wreck, and the crew were with some difficulty saved. The cause of the vessel going on shore yet remains unexplained, but a court of inquiry will be assembled for the purpose of investigating the matter.

4. I should not have sent off this hurried report regarding the arrival of the emigrants by the "Lady Kennaway," if I had not feared that the news of the loss of the vessel might cause anxiety in the minds of their friends, to relieve which I shall send a triplicate copy of this despatch, in order that it may reach you at as early a date as possible.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *G. Grey*.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M. P.,  
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure.  
26 Nov. 1857.

Enclosure in No. 3.

Encl. in No. 3.

My dear Sir George,

Fort Murray, 26 November 1857.

THE immigrants were all safely landed on the 23d, and will arrive in King William's Town this afternoon. A better class of emigrants could not have been selected, and I hope we may succeed in getting them good situations. Your Excellency will be sorry to hear that the "Lady Kennaway" parted her anchor in the roadstead, and went on shore yesterday afternoon, and is a complete wreck. The crew were with some difficulty saved. All the passengers and immigrants were landed on Monday the 23d instant.

I have ordered a court of inquiry into the cause of the accident, as, from all I can learn, it appears singular, and demands explanation.

Yours truly,  
(signed) John Maclean.

— No. 4. —

(No. 206.)

COPY OF DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Honourable H. Labouchere, M. P.

No. 4.  
Governor Sir G. Grey to Right Hon H. Labouchere, M. P.  
26 Dec. 1857.

Cape Town, 26 December 1857.

(Received, 8 February 1858.)

Sir,

(Answered, No. 25, 4 May 1858, page 7.)

I HAVE in previous despatches called your attention to the fact that, acting under the directions of Her Majesty's Government, I had, before the Colonial Parliament agreed to co-operate in introducing the German Legion into this country, stated, that the number of non-commissioned officers and men of that force, who would probably offer themselves for the service, would amount to 8,000, accompanied by a large proportion of officers; that the greater number of men would have wives and families, and that, if it were thought desirable, those not then married would be glad to enter into that state with a view to a fixed settlement.

2. I have also reported that but 2,300 non-commissioned officers and privates actually arrived in this country, and that they were accompanied by an unusually large proportion of officers and gentlemen cadets, whilst the total number of females accompanying the force was only 330, of which number probably 130 were either wives or female children of the officers, so that there could not have been more than 200 females, children included, for the entire body of non-commissioned officers and privates, instead of at least 1,600 wives alone, as the inhabitants of this country would have been justified in expecting from the proposal made by Her Majesty's Government.

3. I have farther shown in previous letters the evils which must ultimately fall upon the country if this state of things continues, the ill-feeling which will by it be created in the minds of its inhabitants, and also, that the large expenditure incurred in locating the German Legion in this country, will have been entirely thrown away, as the moment they are removed from the restrictions of martial law, they will break up and disperse in search of places where they can obtain wives, whilst on the other hand, it is certain that Great Britain will not retain this body of officers and men in permanent military pay for many years, yet it is only by this being done that the Government is enabled to keep them enrolled, and under the provisions of the Mutiny Act.

4. The Secretary for War evidently felt all these points strongly, when in his letter, noted in the margin, he assented to the military emigration being followed up without delay by a considerable free emigration of German families, and had even given directions that the German officer who, he proposed, should act as emigration agent, should be detained in England for the purpose of discharging the duties of that office. Her Majesty's Government, however, thought it most prudent to refer this proposal of the Secretary for War for my consideration.

Colonel Mundy to the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies.  
15 Nov. 1856.  
vide page 1.



\* Page 5.

sideration. I reported so strongly in its favour, indeed, upon the absolute necessity of the measure, that, backed as I was with the recorded opinion of the Secretary for War, I never doubted but that the measure would be carried out, and made all my arrangements accordingly, and it was not until I had the honour of receiving your despatch, No. 204,\* of the 5th of June, that I was undeceived in this respect.

5. I should yet further point out that the Kaffirs, having been compelled to quit their strongholds in British Kaffraria, including the Amatola Mountains, and other fertile tracts of country, we, having no European population to put into these territories, have, since 1852, that is, for five years, held them by a military force, and must still continue to do so. That force, which is quite useless for any other purpose, from being broken up into small detachments, has never been less in number than 2,500 men; indeed, when I assumed the Government of the colony, it exceeded that number, as will be seen from the

FROM STATE for May 1855.

	Officers.	Men.
Blinkwater Post -	1	35
Fort Fortlyce -	4	196
" White -	2	74
" Cox -	4	74
Middle Drift -	3	78
Fort Chumie -	2	62
" Hare -	13	344
Kekulamun Hoek -	17	429
Kabousie Post -	2	99
Dohne Post -	3	119
Baillie's Grave -	2	61
Iseli Post -	1	63
Tamacha Post -	7	233
King William's Town -	30	763
<b>TOTAL -</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>5,713</b>

return in the margin. Now, allowing 35,000*l.* a year as the cost of 800 men, including the expense of their officers, barracks, transport, &c.,\* which estimate is below the true cost, a charge of nearly 105,000*l.* per annum, or 525,000*l.* in the five years already elapsed, has been incurred for the occupation of this territory, the whole of which expenditure, if the troops marched out of the Amatolas to-morrow, would leave no trace whatever behind it, and the natives would immediately re-occupy their strongholds; whilst, comparatively speaking, a very small sum, judiciously expended on immigration, would have enabled 800 men to produce all the advantages now yielded by 2,500 men, and would, whilst relieving Great Britain from a vast annual charge, have also done away with all future extraordinary expenditure on Kaffir wars, by placing this country in a state of perfect security.

6. What has followed in South Africa, from sitting still and doing nothing, has, throughout a long series of years, invariably been this, a heavy annual expenditure for several years, then a very expensive and inconclusive Kaffir war, and, as in each of these wars the natives were trained to larger combinations amongst themselves, and to a more perfect system of warfare, each one of them, as it has come on in its turn, has been longer, more expensive, and more disastrous to us than that which preceded it.

7. I therefore, although it would have been an easy course to adopt, have not felt justified in sitting down quietly and letting events take their course, but have felt it was a duty that I owed to this colony and to Great Britain, and in which I was sure you would support me, to endeavour to fill up the vacant parts of British Kaffraria with a good European population. I say this, because I could have kept the country quiet for my time, and have left the difficulties for my successor; but I felt sure that, from the great interest you have always taken in this country, you would bear me out in any proper responsibility I assumed, however heavy it might be.

8. The first point I had to determine was the character of the population I ought to introduce. The German military settlers had been located in villages, the sites of which had been chosen with a view to the future defence of the country. It was, therefore, desirable to render these permanent and productive locations. Their present military population, with their defensible villages, formed a nucleus round which a body of peasantry might cluster with a certainty of success.

9. The German soldiers having, however, no capital, could not themselves employ British labourers; nor was it likely that they would receive the families of such persons into their houses on their arrival. Nor could there, for several years, be any great sympathy between races, differing so much in language, customs,

\* As per under-mentioned Commissariat Estimate:— "Annual estimated cost of a regiment, consisting of 35 officers and 800 men, at the Cape, 34,983*l.*—Signed, J. S. D."

customs, and habits. I abandoned, therefore, the thought of attempting to mix British emigrants up in the same villages with the German settlers, although, as you are aware, I propose they should be introduced in considerable numbers into the province of British Kaffraria.

10. It, however, appeared to me that I might with great success introduce into each German military village a number of families of German cultivators of the soil. The German military settlers would, on the arrival of these persons, especially if they were their own friends, cheerfully give them house-room, and render them those kind and friendly offices which are so valuable to newly-arrived settlers. There was no doubt that the military villages, reinforced by an emigration of families of this kind, would remain permanent locations; and as the German officers constitute a class of resident country gentry, and the villages are provided with clergymen, schools, medical attendants (all of the same nation as the newly-arriving emigrants), they would together constitute a society of harmonious elements, which might readily attain to a great degree of prosperity.

11. The only difficulty was to obtain the funds for conducting such an emigration; but I yesterday received a letter from a German house, stating that they have consented to conduct the proposed emigration for me at the rate of at least 2,000 souls a year, the first vessels sailing from Germany in April next. I have called upon the military settlers, who wish their relatives to come out, to make their applications and the necessary arrangements, and we have already received as many applications as we desire.

12. The enclosed papers will show you the plan on which this emigration is to be conducted. About 4,000 persons will come out in the first two years, at a cost of 50,000*l.* The emigrants will repay the passage-money in instalments. The Kaffrarian Government will give debentures as they arrive in the country for 50,000*l.*, secured on the revenues, which will bear interest at the rate of six per cent. for 10 years. This annual charge on the revenue of 3,000*l.* per annum will be far more than paid each year by the increased receipts from the augmented population, and from the general improvement which will take place in the country. The emigrants will also be entitled to land, for which they will pay. The amounts thus paid will by degrees yield a considerable land fund, which will be available for the general expenses of the country, and for immigration purposes.

13. It is only necessary for me to add, that the rapid augmentation which will take place in the European population under the proposed system will in a few years put British Kaffraria in such a condition, that it will cease to be a cause of anxiety and expense to Great Britain; and that I hope the efforts its Government has made thus to aid itself will show how desirous it is to relieve the mother country of every charge it can; as also how great is the public confidence in the resources and prospects of the country, when it finds no difficulty in procuring a loan of 50,000*l.* on the security of its own revenues.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) G. Grey.

Enclosure 1, in No. 4.

Encl. 1, in No. 4.

Sir,  
WITH reference to the communication which you addressed to his Excellency the Governor on the 16th April last, proposing on behalf of Messrs. J. C. Godeffroy & Son, of Hamburg, to introduce German emigrants into the colony of the Cape of Good Hope, I am directed by his Excellency the High Commissioner and Governor of British Kaffraria to inform you that he is prepared to enter into an arrangement for at once introducing German emigrants into that settlement, under the regulations contained in the enclosed document, which are founded mainly upon the proposals contained in your letter above referred to.

2. His Excellency proposes to carry on this immigration to the extent (in cost of transport) of 50,000*l.*

3. The payment for transport from Hamburg to British Kaffraria is to be made to Messrs. Godeffroy & Son in debentures of the Government of British Kaffraria, of such amounts (not being less than 50*l.* each) as Messrs. Godeffroy and Son may desire, such debentures to bear

Enclosure 1.  
19 Aug. 1857.  
Enclosure 2.  
25 Aug. 1857.  
Enclosure 3.  
Regulations for introduction of emigrants to British Kaffraria.  
24 Aug. 1857.  
Enclosure 4.  
6 Nov. 1857.

bear interest, payable in London, half-yearly or quarterly, if required, at the rate of six per cent per annum, and to be reclaimable in 10 years at furthest; but the Government to have the right of reducing them, or any part of them, at an earlier period, upon giving six months' notice to the holders.

4. His Excellency is very desirous that no time should be lost in commencing the emigration, and he will require that Messrs. Godeffroy should use every exertion to despatch one or more vessels during the present year.

5. His Excellency will expect Messrs. Godeffroy and Son to send out at least 2,000 persons during the shipping season of 1858, dividing the shipments as equally as may be practicable over the season, which, he understands, extends from March to November, both months inclusive, and to continue to conduct the emigration upon the same scale during the remainder of the contract.

6. If Messrs. Godeffroy & Son should comply with the preceding stipulations, and carry on the service to his Excellency's satisfaction, his Excellency will undertake not to employ any other agents in Germany for this service.

7. On the other hand, in order to meet the contingency of the service not being carried on satisfactorily, his Excellency reserves to the Government the power of terminating the contract to be entered into upon the above terms, upon giving to Messrs. Godeffroy & Son full six months' notice of his intention to require the cancellation of it.

8. His Excellency believes that the details will be found to have been carefully considered and fully provided for; but if any necessary stipulations or regulation has been overlooked in the present communication, it can be added as a supplement to the arrangement.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Rawson W. Rawson,*  
Colonial Secretary.

W. Berg, Esq., Cape Town.

#### CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

COPY of a Communication from Mr. *William Berg*, of Cape Town, dated 16 April 1857, relative to a proposal to introduce into this Colony Emigrants from Germany.

To His Excellency Sir *George Grey*, K.C.B., Governor.

Sir,

Cape Town, 16 April 1857.

THE desire of your Excellency and of the Colonial Parliament to introduce emigrants into the colony upon a large and comprehensive arrangement has attracted the attention of my friends, Messrs. John Cesar Godeffroy & Son, of Hamburg, who have requested me, as their agent, to propose to your Excellency, for your favourable consideration, a plan for the introduction of German emigrants, under the following arrangements, which, from the wealth, European reputation, and respectability of Messrs. J. C. Godeffroy & Son, will be carried out with facility:

1. Messrs. J. C. Godeffroy & Son will engage and bring to the colony of the Cape of Good Hope (i. e., to Table Bay and Algoa Bay), from Hamburg, German emigrants, of respectable character, and of all trades, as well as those attached to agricultural pursuits.

2. The engagement to be made with emigrants, and the expense of conveying them to the colony, will be undertaken and borne by Messrs. J. C. Godeffroy & Son, who bear the risk occasioned from all deaths during the voyage, and have no claim for any loss or expense thereby sustained.

3. The ordinary class of emigrants shall be conveyed to the colony at the rate of 11*l.* 10*s.* sterling for each adult, and half that amount for each child under the age of ten years, who shall arrive at, and be landed in, the colony.

4. That if the Government shall so deem it, Messrs. J. C. Godeffroy & Son will send with every body of emigrants a doctor and a clergyman, at the rate of 30*l.* for each, and who shall receive a cabin passage.

5. Messrs. J. C. Godeffroy & Son engage to victual, up to the time of their arrival, the emigrants so imported by them.

6. Messrs. J. C. Godeffroy & Son will, in the prosecution of the scheme, advance moneys to the extent of 200,000*l.*; say, 200,000*l.* sterling.

7. They will agree to a reimbursement by Colonial Government debentures, bearing interest at the rate of six per cent., payable quarterly. The debentures to be redeemable in at least 10 years, but the Government to have the right to redeem them, or any part of them, upon giving six months' notice to the holders.

8. The debentures shall not be negotiable in the colony.

Upon these terms Messrs. J. C. Godeffroy & Son are further prepared to introduce, in addition to the ordinary class of emigrants, a great number of industrious respectable families,

families, who are anxious to settle in this colony, provided they are advanced the means of passage, and provided Government will sell the land on credit, to be paid with their passage money and interest, as follows:—

Fifty acres of good land to every married couple; 30 acres to every single man; 10 acres for each child above 10 years of age; five acres for each child above one year of age.

The rate of the land, Government will, the emigrants are assured, fix at a fair and reasonable sum.

Transfer of the land not to be given until paid for, with the passage money.

Such payment to be made as follows:—one-fifth after the fourth year; one-fifth after the fifth year; one-fifth after the sixth year; one-fifth after the seventh year; and one-fifth after the eighth year from the date of the sale.

The emigrants have the right of paying off the whole, or any part of the debt, at an earlier period.

Messrs. J. C. Godeffroy & Son will convey all description of emigrants in their own vessels, including their powerful steamers, which comprise some of the largest merchant vessels and steamers afloat.

The expense of introducing the latter class of emigrants is included in the sum of 200,000 *l.*, in such proportion as the Government may deem most expedient.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *Wm. Berg.*

To The Honourable Rawson W. Rawson, Esq.

Sir,

Cape Town, 25 August 1857.

I HAVE the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 18th instant, and beg to reply, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that, on behalf of Messrs. John Cesar Godeffroy & Son, of Hamburg, I quite agree to the terms stated for the importation of emigrants to British Kaffraria, and that I will forthwith take the necessary steps for the execution of the agreement.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *Wm. Berg.*

Enclosure 2, in No. 4.

Encl. 2, in No. 4.

Sir,

Colonial Office, 25 August 1857.

I HAVE the honour herewith to forward a memorandum regarding the form of contract to be entered into by emigrants to British Kaffraria for the repayment of the passage-money to be advanced by the Government.

The contract itself had better be drawn up in Germany. The experience of Messrs. Godeffroy will best guide them in this matter.

H. E. has directed a power of attorney to be prepared to enable Mr. Gustav Godeffroy, whom you have named, to act as his representative in the execution of these contracts. It will be forwarded to you as soon as it is ready.

I return herewith your power of attorney from Messrs. Godeffroy, of which I have retained a copy.

I have, &c.  
*Wm. Berg, Esq., Cape Town.* (signed) *Rawson W. Rawson,*  
Colonial Secretary.

DRAFT CONTRACT between the Kaffrarian Government and *J. C. Godeffroy & Son*,  
for the introduction of Immigrants into British Kaffraria.

BE it hereby made known, that on this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_  
in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, before me,  
notary public, duly sworn and admitted by the Government of the  
colony of the Cape of Good Hope, and residing in Cape Town, in the presence of the  
subscribing witnesses, personally came and appeared the Honourable Rawson William  
Rawson, esq., duly authorised to make and execute this contract on behalf of the Govern-  
ment of British Kaffraria by his Excellency Sir George Grey, K. C. B., in his capacity as  
Her Majesty's High Commissioner and Governor of British Kaffraria, of the one part, and  
William Berg, of Cape Town, merchant, of the other part, in his capacity as the agent of  
Messrs. John Cesar Godeffroy & Son, of Hamburg, merchants, by them duly authorised  
to make and execute this contract on behalf of the said firm of Godeffroy & Son, by a  
letter of attorney bearing date at Hamburg the 21st day of November 1856, and executed  
by the said firm before the notary public, Edward Schramm, LL. D., and witnesses, which  
letter of attorney was produced and shown to me, the notary, at the time of the execution  
of these presents; and the said appearers did declare, for and on behalf of their principals  
respectively,

respectively, to have made and entered into, as by these presents they do make and enter into, conclude, and confirm the following contract and agreement:—

Whereas the said firm of J. C. Godeffroy & Son have, by and through the appearance of the second part, proposed to his Excellency Sir George Grey, in his capacity aforesaid, to introduce, upon certain conditions, German immigrants into British Kaffraria: And whereas certain regulations, embodying the said conditions, have been framed and approved of by the said Sir George Grey, on behalf of the Government of British Kaffraria, and by the appearance of the second part, on behalf of the said firm of J. C. Godeffroy & Son, a copy of which regulations, bearing equal date with these presents, and signed by the appearance and by me the notary, is annexed to this deed: Now, therefore, these presents witness as follows; that is to say,—

1st. That the appearance of the first part, so authorised as aforesaid, promises and undertakes, on the part and on behalf of the said Sir George Grey, in his capacity aforesaid, and of the Government of British Kaffraria, that all and singular the several payments, land grants, matters, and things which, by the said annexed regulations, should be made or done by the said Government in regard to the said firm of J. C. Godeffroy & Son, and the intended immigrants, shall be made and done duly and *bona fide*, and according to the true intent and meaning of the said regulations.

2d. That the appearance of the second part, in his capacity aforesaid, promises and undertakes, on the part and behalf of the said firm of J. C. Godeffroy & Son, that they will use their best exertions to obtain and forward such immigrants as are described in the said annexed regulations, and that they will supply proper and sufficient shipping for the purpose; and they will in all respects, as far as in them lies, conform to and carry out all and singular the stipulations, engagements, matters, and things which by the said regulations are to be performed by the said firm.

Thus done and passed, in triplicate, in Cape Town, the day, month, and year aforesaid, in the presence of A. B. and C. D. as witnesses.

#### GERMAN EMIGRANTS' CONTRACT.

##### Memorandum.

1. I CONCEIVE that the contract to be entered into by the emigrant, before embarkation, for the repayment of the bounty, should be in the German language.

2. This contract should, I conceive, be made between the emigrant and some person in Hamburg, authorised by a power of attorney from the High Commissioner and Governor of British Kaffraria, to represent the Government of British Kaffraria.

3. I conceive that printed forms will be found convenient.

4. These contracts should, in their form and mode of execution, conform to the local law of Hamburg, as regards the execution of such instruments.

5. As the validity of these contracts must be tried by the law of Hamburg, it will be proper, I conceive, that they should be drawn up in Hamburg; and that they should, unless the law of Hamburg should otherwise provide, be non-notarial, so as to save notarial charges.

6. The regulations do not fix any age for an "adult;" and the laws of the various German States vary, I think, very much as to the age of majority, some having established 18 years, some 21 years, and some 25 years. If emigrants under the age of majority should be required to execute the contracts, they should be assisted by such guardians as, by the law of Hamburg, are required for the execution of contracts which shall be binding upon minors.

7. By Regulation 14, each "head of a family" is to receive a building-plot, free. Of course, a husband with his wife, though without children, is a head of a family, as well as a husband with both wife and children. By Regulation 9, no bounty is payable for widowers and widows, with "young" children; but would such a widower or widow be a "head of a family," under Regulation 14? and if a widower or widow with "young" children would not be a head of a family, would a widower or widow with older children be such a head? And should not some age be fixed, both for the bounty and the building-plot, instead of the general expression, "young"?

8. I presume that every parent, male or female, for whose minor children the bounty is paid, is to be bound by the contract to repay the bounty paid for the children, together with the bounty paid for the parent himself or herself. This will need to be attended to in all cases in which whole families shall be brought out.

9. When the competency of the emigrant to contract, and the number of persons for whom he or she is to engage to repay the bounty, shall be ascertained, the contract may, I conceive, be very simple.

10. The contract being printed, the regulations, as finally adopted, should be prefixed to or indorsed upon the emigrant's contract. The contract then would state that A. B., being about to emigrate to British Kaffraria, upon the conditions mentioned in the regulations prefixed to or endorsed upon the contract, he, the said A. B., thereby covenanted, promised, and undertook to and with C. D., acting for and on behalf of the Government of British Kaffraria, to repay, at the times and in the manner in the said regulations set forth, the bounty or sum of 12 £ 10 s., to be paid by the said Government to Messrs. J. C. Godeffroy & Son, for and in consideration of their conveying the said A. B. to British Kaffraria, in manner and form as in the said regulations specified.

11. When heads of families contract it will be proper to specify the number and names of the children, if any, and to bind the party contracting to pay the calculated bounty upon the whole family.

(signed) *W. Porter.*

Attorney-General's Office, Cape Town,  
24 August 1857.

Know all men by these presents, that we, the undersigned John Cesar Godeffroy & Son, of Hamburg, merchants, have made, ordained, nominated, constituted, and appointed, and by these presents do make, ordain, nominate, constitute, and appoint Mr. William Berg, of Cape Town (Cape of Good Hope), to be our true and lawful attorney, for us and in our name, place, and stead to enter into, contract, and agree with the Government and the competent authorities on the Cape of Good Hope, for the outlanding and export of emigrants; and to sign, seal, and execute all or any such contracts and agreements, for us and in our name, and to do and perform all such acts and things for perfecting such contracts and agreements as shall be requisite and necessary in that behalf; and upon receipt of the payment of monies arising from such contracts or agreements, to give sufficient release, acquittances and discharges for the same, for us and in our name; and generally to do, transact, manage, and perform all other matters, business, affairs, and things whatsoever relating to the said premises, as fully and effectually as we ourselves might or could do, if personally present, with power of substitution and revocation, hereby ratifying, allowing, and confirming all and whatsoever our said attorney or his substitutes shall or may legally do or cause to be done in and about the premises for the better executing the purposes aforesaid, by virtue of these presents. In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hand and seal. This done in Hamburg, the 21st day of November, in the year of our Lord 1856.

(signed) *John Cesar Godeffroy & Son.*

Signed, sealed, and delivered in the presence of

(signed) *F. T. Prohme,*  
*Ad. Ritter,* } Witnesses.

I, Edward Schramm, doctor of laws of the free Hansentio town and city of Hamburg, notary public by lawful authority duly admitted and sworn, do hereby certify and attest unto all whom it may concern, that the letter of attorney here before written, was duly signed and sealed by Mr. Gustav Godeffroy of this city, senator, partner of the firm of John Ces. Godeffroy & Son, in my presence and in the presence of Friedrich Theodore Prohme, and Adolph Ritter, both of this city inhabitants, witnesses thereunto requested. To the due execution thereof, an act being required, I have granted the same under my hand and seal of office, to serve and avail as occasion shall or may require. Done and passed in Hamburg aforesaid, the 21st day of November, in the year of our Lord 1856.

(signed) *Schramm, Dr.*

This is to certify that the above signature "Schramm, Dr.," is the proper handwriting of Dr. Schramm, sworn notary, residing and practising in this city, and the seal thereto affixed his official seal, and that unto all documents and writings so signed and sealed full faith and credit are and ought to be given in courts of justice and elsewhere. As witness my hand and seal of office at Hamburg, this 22d day of November 1856.

(signed) *W. Waddilove,*  
Her Britannic Majesty's Vice-Consul.

#### LETTER OF ATTORNEY.

WHEREAS a certain contract has been entered into between his Excellency Sir George Grey, K. C. B., in his capacity as Her Majesty's High Commissioner and Governor of British Kaffraria, and the firm of J. C. Godeffroy & Son of Hamburg, for the introduction of certain German emigrants into British Kaffraria, under and according to certain regulations on that behalf agreed upon, a copy of which regulations, signed by the said Sir George Grey, is annexed to this letter of attorney; and whereas it is stipulated and enjoined

by the said regulations that certain of such emigrants should, previous to embarkation, execute a contract binding themselves to repay to the Government of British Kaffraria, in manner and form as in the said regulations specified, the bounty money to be paid by the said Government to the said firm, for and on account of the said emigrants: Now, therefore, I the said Sir George Grey, in my capacity aforesaid, and acting on behalf of the Government of British Kaffraria for the time being, do by these presents nominate, constitute, and appoint Mr. Gustav Godeffroy, senator of the Hansatic town of Hamburg, to be the attorney or agent of me the said Sir George Grey in my capacity aforesaid, and of the Governor and Government of British Kaffraria for the time being, for the purpose of becoming as such attorney a party to any contract or contracts to be executed by any such emigrant or emigrants as aforesaid, in Hamburg or elsewhere in Germany, whereby any such emigrant or emigrants shall engage and bind himself, herself, or themselves to the said Gustav Godeffroy, as such attorney as aforesaid, to repay to the Government of British Kaffraria for the time being, at the time or times in the said regulations set forth, by the hands of such person or persons as shall from time to time be appointed, by any writing under the hand of the High Commissioner or other Governor of British Kaffraria for the time being, to receive the same, such sum or sums of money as shall be, either directly or by reference to the regulations aforesaid, specified in or fixed by any such contract as aforesaid to be paid by the said Government. And I, the said Sir George Grey, do hereby grant to the said Gustav Godeffroy power to substitute one or more attorneys under him for all or any of the purposes aforesaid, promising on the part and behalf of the Government of British Kaffraria, to ratify and confirm whatsoever the said Gustav Godeffroy, or any attorney substituted by him, may lawfully do in the premises.

Given at Government House, Cape Town, under the hand and seal of the said Sir George Grey, this 25th day of August 1857, in the presence of the witnesses whose names are subscribed.

(signed) *G. Grey,*  
High Commissioner and Governor of  
British Kaffraria.

Witnesses.  
(signed) *Ransom W. Ransom.*  
*Charles J. Boyle.*

Encl. 3, in No. 4.

Enclosure 3, in No. 4.

#### REGULATIONS for the Introduction of German Immigrants into British Kaffraria.

1. MESSRS. J. C. GODEFFROY & SON, of Hamburg, have by their agent in Cape Town, Wm. Berg, Esq., agreed with his Excellency the High Commissioner to introduce German immigrants into British Kaffraria upon the following conditions.

2. A bounty of 12 l. 10 s. will be paid, in the manner hereinafter provided, for every adult landed at East London, who shall have been there approved by a Board of Immigration Commissioners to be appointed by his Excellency. In the case of persons embarking under an order furnished by the Government to members of families of the Anglo-German Legion, the amount of bounty will be reduced to 12 l.

3. In computing the number of adults for which the said bounty is payable, two children of the ages of one year and under 10 shall be deemed equal to one adult.

No bounty will be paid for children under one year.

4. The immigrants shall be brought from Hamburg, and shall be of respectable character, and shall chiefly be composed of persons who have been engaged in agricultural pursuits. They must be in good health, and free from all bodily or mental defects at the time of embarkation.

5. The age of married couples must not, in the case of either the husband or wife, exceed, on embarkation, 45 years.

6. Bounty will not be paid for husbands who embark without being accompanied by their wives, nor for wives who embark without being accompanied by their husbands, unless, in the latter case, the husband may happen to be already resident in British Kaffraria.

7. Single women under 18, without their parents, are not admissible unless they are emigrating under the immediate care of some married relations, or are under engagement as domestic servants to ladies going out as cabin passengers in the same ship, or under some other proper protection. They cannot be accepted for the bounty if above 30. Single women with illegitimate children will in no case be taken.

8. Bounty will not be payable for single men; but if any should form part of a family emigrating, they will be allowed the privilege of obtaining land under the present regulations.

9. No bounty will be payable for widowers or widows with young children; nor for persons who have been the inmates of any penal, reformatory, or pauper institution, or who have not been vaccinated, or not had the small-pox.

10. Bounty will be payable for the wives, families, relatives, or friends of soldiers of the German Legion serving in British Kaffraria, who in point of age, sex, or otherwise, do not fall within the preceding conditions, provided that the previous sanction of his Excellency be obtained upon special application in each case.

11. Should his Excellency see fit to allow the bounty for the persons mentioned in the preceding paragraph, it will be subject to the condition that the Immigration Board shall be satisfied of the fitness of the intended immigrant in point of character; otherwise the bounty will be charged against the pay of the applicant.

12. The immigrants of each immigrant ship shall be accompanied by a surgeon, and may also be accompanied by a clergyman or teacher, for whom a cabin passage shall be provided, and for which his Excellency will allow 30*l.* each. Such persons will be entitled to the same conditions with regard to land as other immigrants, they paying for such land like other immigrants; but they will not be required to repay any part of the said loan of 30*l.*

13. Messrs. Godeffroy engage to victual the immigrants, if required, for eight days after the ship's arrival at the Buffalo Mouth; but if detained on board beyond eight days, the Government will pay 2*s.* per day for such further time, for every adult, to cover demurrage.

14. Parties immigrating under the above regulations will receive from the Government of British Kaffraria the following land grants and privileges, viz.:

Each head of a family will receive a free grant of one building lot in a village, in that part of South Africa in which the Anglo-German Legion is located; and will have assigned to him country lands to the following extent, at the rate of 1*l.* per acre purchase money, to be paid as hereinafter mentioned; viz., 20 acres of good country land to every married couple, 10 acres to every single man, and two acres for each child above one year of age.

15. If the immigrant should dislike the land assigned to him, and decline to take it, he may at any time within one year after his arrival, buy country land at public auction at any Government sale of land in British Kaffraria, in payment of which an allowance will be made to the extent of his privilege under the preceding regulation; and further, instead of paying ready money for such land, he need only pay the price of it in the proportionate instalments hereinafter mentioned.

16. The bounty money paid to Messrs. Godeffroy & Co. is upon the principle of an advance made by the Government to provide a passage for the immigrant, but which the immigrant is to be bound to repay to the Government, as hereinafter mentioned. In order that the immigrant should perfectly understand this condition upon embarkation, Messrs. Godeffroy agree to require each head of a family, or adult immigrant, to duly sign and execute such legal instrument as shall be furnished to them by the Government for that purpose, prior to the departure of the emigrant ship from Hamburg, binding him to reimburse the Government of British Kaffraria in the amount of bounty money paid for his passage. The Government will, however, remit one-half the bounty or passage money in respect of the female members of families, being unmarried, and between the ages of 12 and 25.

17. The mode of such repayment, as well as of the payment in respect of land grants and purchases, shall be as follows:

One-fifth after the fourth year, one-fifth after the fifth year, one-fifth after the sixth year, one-fifth after the seventh year, and one-fifth after the eighth year after arrival at East London.

18. The immigrants have the right of paying off the whole, or any part of the debt, at an earlier period.

The full title to the land not to be given until both purchase-money and passage-money shall have been paid off. No charge to be made for survey of land or delivery of title.

19. The Government will at its own cost provide conveyance for the immigrants and their baggage and effects from the ship, at the port of disembarkation, to the respective locations of the immigrants.

20. No customs duty will be charged on the personal baggage and effects of the immigrants, not intended for trade or merchandise.

(signed) Rawson W. Rawson,  
On behalf of H. E. the High Commissioner and  
Governor of British Kaffraria.

Colonial Office, Cape Town,  
Cape of Good Hope, 24 August 1857.



Encl. 4, in No. 4.

Enclosure 4, in No. 4.

To William Berg, Esq., Cape Town.

Dear Sir,

Hamburg, 6 November 1857.

YOUR favour of 25th August, to hand only the 6th instant, brought me the regulations and conditions under which we are to engage German emigrants for British Kaffraria, and also all necessary power of attorney of his Excellency Governor Grey for me to act in his name.

Before I enter into various details of the regulations, I beg you to tender his Excellency my most sincere thanks for the great confidence he has placed in me, and to assure his Excellency that all what good will and experience can do shall certainly be done to deserve the confidence placed in me, and to bring the difficult enterprise to a good result, when the inmost conviction tells me, that I can with full confidence use all the credit our name possesses in the interior of Germany, to send out emigrants to British Kaffraria, who are certain to be happy under the fatherly care of his Excellency.

I now come to touch upon several points of the conditions and regulations:

*Period.*—His Excellency wishes that the first emigrants should already be sent out this year; this, I am sorry to say, is quite impossible; the orders and documents only reached a few days ago, and now the season is far too much advanced to accomplish all the necessary steps; besides, our river may be frozen end of this month. The calling into existence of emigration to a new country, even of the most promising nature, and where the whole passage is advanced, requires preparation and some time; we cannot send the sweeping of the streets, but only good people of the labouring class in the interior, and these have their home to leave and to sell before they can go, and also to procure the necessary permission to emigrate from the respective governments, which is never granted with a great pleasure and in a hurry to emigrants of a respectable character. It is quite impossible to begin before next spring, in April (May, if any good is to come of it), and his Excellency must place the confidence in me that no unnecessary time shall be lost.

*Price.*—His Excellency considers the price of 12*l.* 10*s.* too high; I can assure you it is not, if the affair is conscientiously managed; besides, all provisions, especially butter, beef, and pork, are extravagantly high. Experience must teach us whether a reduction can be made; if it can, which we do not however believe, we will be the first to propose the same.

*Age.*—The age for man and wife is fixed at 45. We consider it the interest of his Excellency and the colony if the age is extended to 50, as the children of people of 50 are more grown up, and better able to take care of themselves, than children of men of 45. His Excellency must decide whether he wants the father and mother younger, and the children younger, or the father and mother a few years older, and the children more independent of them. A man of 50 is much more likely to have grown up daughters than a man of 45, and for women we must principally look to the daughters of families, as it will be difficult to find near female relations, in conformity with his Excellency's instructions, joining their friends, and enjoying the bounty, and as besides, it will be difficult to trace the relations up.

Please refer this point to his Excellency, and give us his decision. The Government of New South Wales admits bounty emigrants of 50 with families.

*Bounty not Payable for Widowers and Widows.*—It may so happen that one of the parents dies during his passage for the interior, or during his stay here, cases which have occurred to us, or on the passage out, and we suppose that if such exceptions happen, no objection will be made to grant the bounty, as it is quite impossible to return from here a family which has once emigrated to the native soil, having thereby foregone the rights of subject. We beg you to submit this point to his Excellency most particularly, and to give us his decision. His Excellency may depend that no abuse shall be made, but we cannot run the risk of such accidents. It is quite understood, however, that we only claim the bounty for the landed passengers, but that those members of a family which has lost one of the parents after having left home are admitted to the bounty.

*Quality of Emigrants.*—We will always furnish testimonials of the good conduct and behaviour of the emigrants from some local authority, which we suppose will answer the instructions of his Excellency. Generally speaking, the labouring class from the interior is a decent, quiet, sober, and laborious set of people.

*Vaccinated.*—No child is received into the church (confirmed), and nobody is married in Germany without being vaccinated.

*Preachers and Teachers* are always married, and poor people. Is his Excellency also inclined to pay the cabin passage for the wife and children, or is it to be understood that only the bounty will be granted to wife and children, and are they to refund the same? Do they enjoy the same land privileges as other emigrants? Without the latter privileges, and either of the above, it will be very difficult or impossible to induce either preachers or teachers to emigrate.

*Two Acres for each Child* seems not quite enough in all cases. A family of man, wife, and child gets 22 acres. A family of man, wife, and eight children gets 36 acres. The proportion does not seem quite correct; perhaps his Excellency would change this, and grant for children above 10 three acres, and above 14 four or five acres each.

*Interest.*—We understand his Excellency's prescription, so that the emigrants will not be charged with interest upon the amount of bounty nor the land.

*Redemption of Bonds.*—Are the bonds redeemable after or during the 10 years, perhaps a certain number every year? Please procure us an answer to this point, as it must lead us in our disposition regarding the mode of payment of interest.

*Number per Year.*—We hope to come up to 2,000 per year, but we may also fail, and cannot take any responsibility. A gradual influx is certainly much better for the emigrants and the colony, as the first arrivals have had time to settle before the new ones come.

*Programme.*—Inclosed please find the programme which our agents have printed to promote the emigration. It is necessary to drum up a little, and to draw people's attention to a new country. We do not know anything to add to the programme, which you will perhaps give translated to his Excellency. The obliging the emigrant to pay 10\* requires an explanation. This money does not fall into our pocket; it is used to defray the expenses of the sub-agents in the interior, printing, advertisements, which are very expensive; for doctors' certificates, enrolments to the local authorities in the interior, to draw up the certificate and emigration permission, which intention must be published four weeks before the departure in the official paper, incurring considerable expenses, and especially also to provide beds, &c., in case of emergency.

\* Note.—In the original paper the name of the coin is illegible.

*P. S.*—After the above has been written, our agents, Messrs. Dieseldorff & Co., hand us a letter which we enclose in original, with two extracts of newspapers, regarding the German Legion in Kaffraria. Even if we believe that the complaints are exaggerated, it is of the utmost importance that his Excellency should take into consideration the observations made by our agents, and remedy the evil, if any exists, as much as possible, as we rely entirely upon his Excellency that the emigrants whom we send out should feel comfortable and happy in their new home. If bad accounts reach from the emigrants there we are sadly compromised, and the emigration to Kaffraria is at once at an end. Please give all these points your usual attention, and believe us,

Yours, &c.  
(signed) *John Cesar Godeffroy & Son.*

To Messrs. John Cesar Godeffroy & Son.

Dear Sirs,

Hamburg, 9 November 1857.

REGARDING the emigration to Kaffraria we beg to enclose two extracts from German newspapers, which, as you will perceive, do not give the best accounts of the new colony, and will no doubt be used by emigration agents of others to keep emigrants from going out to East London.

Should we however still get over this obstacle, and succeed in all we want, which we do not doubt after all will be the case, still it is always to be deplored that such articles appear here, which, as we must add, seems to be founded on truth and good ground. Looking over the complaint of the vicinity of the wild Kaffirs, which will of course become less molesting in the degree as emigration proceeds, the charge that after so long a time the land had not yet been surveyed and measured is very important, and one which speaks very much against the Government. It is also a bad principle to force the emigrants to build their houses according to a certain plan, in fact it is interfering in their rights and own will, and reproduces in a new home what they wished to leave in their old one, too much government. It should be left to the emigrants to build as they like, according to their means and taste, and so let the matter go its natural way, which after all will lead to the best end.

The complaints of the climate we do not believe to be made with justice, still they are made and circulated here.

Should you therefore write to Cape Town, we would entreat you to mention all this, and to advise the following for the welfare of the emigrants now coming out. It is necessary that Government builds some large rough house where the emigrants can stop a week or two, till they can go up the country to their lands; it is all very well to say here that they will be immediately forwarded upwards, but when you consider that 400 new colonists come at once, and in a country where the means of conveyance are on so primary a scale, there can be little doubt that Government will not be able to do so, even with the very best will of its officers.

The Government must not lose time in surveying the lands, so that when a colonist is shown to his hut, he at once distinctly knows the extent and boundaries of his property.

It would be unwise and unjust to wait with this, and would only lead to quarrels and disputes among the colonists, or between them and the Government. It is to be recollected that the present Governor, Sir George Grey, is well known as an intelligent, just, and upright gentleman, and moreover as a protector of the Germans, and it is therefore to be expected that no bad will, or great grievances will occur; but if he should leave the

colony it is problematic whether his successor will be the same, therefore the colonists must at once be so placed that they cannot be wronged, and a document or deed given them regarding their lands, stating their right to it, all but the title, which is handed to them when they have paid all.

Lastly, Government should provide that they can buy at reasonable rates provisions and agricultural implements, else they will soon be out of pocket, an evil of consequence to the prospering of the new settlement. As females are much required, the Government must extend the age of the parents to 50 years, on embarkation, the same that is allowed in New South Wales.

Only when doing this the Government can count on getting many families with girls of marriageable age; as on the continent there is not the system of calistang, and everybody has to serve himself. Men mostly do not marry before the 26th year and more, and besides this are our agricultural classes, when 50 years, in their best age, yet with the restriction now to take only families not above 45 years, most emigrants will have children of young ages, or be altogether only married a short time.

In this manner the Legion will not all get wives, and it is not wise to take single girls on the condition of being related with some family; it will only lead to abuses, as it is difficult to convince ourselves of the truth of their relationship; better then to say single women of good character can come altogether free from relationship.

We are, &c.  
(signed) *Dieseldorff & Co.*

We may privately mention that the emigrants now going out will do so on our advice, on the good name you and ourselves have among this class for being trustworthy, and firms that would not lend their hand to any bad scheme; they have mostly a blind confidence to you and us. You are aware that this is a palladium which we must always keep up, and that therefore you should use all your influence, that the Kaffrarian government does all what the circumstances require, so that no emigrants can justly make us a reproach.

(signed) *Dieseldorff & Co.*

Sir,

Colonial Office, 26 December 1857.

WITH reference to the letter from Messrs. J. C. Godeffroy & Son, dated 6th November, which you submitted to his Excellency the High Commissioner this morning, I am directed by his Excellency to express to you his satisfaction at hearing that Messrs. Godeffroy are prepared to carry out the arrangements which you have made on their behalf without any loss of time. He trusts that a vessel will be dispatched, as soon as the season will admit, in 1858.

2. With regard to the several points in the regulations mooted in Messrs. Godeffroy's letter, with a view to promote the successful working of the system, his Excellency authorises you to communicate the following decision to Messrs. Godeffroy.

1st. *Age*.—His Excellency does not object to the proposed extension of the average age of father and mother from 45 to 50.

2d. *Bounty payable for Widowers and Widows*.—The bounty will be paid in the cases put by Messrs. Godeffroy. If the death should occur before embarkation, Messrs. Godeffroy will require and supply due proof of the circumstances.

3d. *Preachers and Teachers*.—The passage of wives and children will be paid for on similar terms, and the husbands and families will have the same privileges as other immigrants.

4th. *Allowance of Land to Children*.—His Excellency sanctions the increased allowance to children, namely, for children above 10, three acres; for those above 14, five acres.

5th. *Interest*.—It is not intended to charge interest upon the amount of bounty and cost of land.

6th. *Redemption of Bonds*.—It is intended that the bonds shall not be redeemable before the expiration of ten years from their issue. Future arrangements can be made for their redemption after that period.

With regard to the letter of Messrs. Dieseldorff & Co., his Excellency doubts not that the real state and prospects of the settlers in British Kaffraria will soon become sufficiently well known to prevent untrue or exaggerated statements from interfering with the recruiting of suitable emigrants.

W. Berg, Esq., &c. &c.  
Cape Town.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *Ransom W. Ransom,*  
Colonial Secretary.

## II.—GERMAN LEGION.

## Despatches from Governor Sir George Grey.

— No. 1. —

(No. 10.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Honourable  
H. Labouchere, M. P.

Cape Town, 28 January 1857.  
(Received, 18 March 1857.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to enclose for your information four "states," from which you will be glad to find that the four vessels named in the margin have arrived here after unusually rapid passages, bringing out 1,930 souls, officers, non-commissioned officers, men, women, and children of the German Legion.

2. The conduct of the men during the passage has been reported good, and the health of the men and officers was excellent.

3. The detachments of the German Legion which arrived by the "Sultana" and "Culloden," have already landed at East London.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M. P.,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) G. Grey.

No. 1.  
Governor Sir G.  
Grey to Right Hon.  
H. Labouchere.  
M. P.  
28 Jan. 1857.

"Sultana,"  
"Culloden,"  
"Scamboul,"  
"Abyssinian."

— No. 2. —

(No. 14.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Honourable  
H. Labouchere, M. P.

Cape Town, 29 January 1857.  
(Received, 18 March 1857.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report that Her Majesty's steamer "Vulcan" arrived late last night with Baron Stutterheim and the Head Quarters of the German Legion. I received by the "Vulcan" your various despatches connected with the settlement of the Legion in this colony.

2. From the enclosed copy of a letter, which I addressed to Lieutenant-general Sir James Jackson, upon the 23d instant, you will find that the arrival of Baron Stutterheim had been so long delayed that I deemed it prudent to issue orders for the march of several detachments of the German Legion to the posts which had been respectively assigned them.

3. The "Covenanter" also arrived last night with another strong detachment of the German Legion; the arrangements made for the conveyance of the Legion to this country have, as yet, worked in every respect satisfactorily. The health of the men has been most excellent, and not one death or serious casualty has yet been reported to me.

4. The monthly mail steamer for England is now on the point of sailing. I have not, therefore, time to reply to your despatches by the "Vulcan." But I wished to state, in reference to your despatch, No. 128, of the 17th of November, regarding the 12th regiment being sent from this colony, that I am inclined to think that such a proceeding, at the present moment, would be a very imprudent one.

5. The Kaffirs are a very shrewd and cunning race. They will not fail to remark that the number of the German Legion which has arrived is much below what had been calculated on; they will attribute this to our not being able to obtain more men, and I fear, if a reduction in the military force is made at the very moment the Legion arrives, the whole effect which is now being produced

No. 2.  
Governor Sir G.  
Grey to Right Hon.  
H. Labouchere,  
M. P.  
29 Jan. 1857.

29 Jan. 1857.  
Enclosure.

from such strong reinforcements arriving in the colony will be lost. We are, as I have already had the honour of reporting, now passing through a very severe and trying crisis; as yet, as far as it has gone, the advantage has been altogether on our side, and, until the danger is quite over, I hesitate to take any step which may in any manner endanger our present position of safety.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M. P.,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) G. Grey.

Encl. in No. 2.

Enclosure in No. 2.

Sir,

Government House, Cape Town, 23 January 1857.

HAVING delayed for a considerable time giving orders regarding the location of the German Legion, in the hope that the Commissioners would ere this have arrived in the colony, I have the honour to state that I do not think it just to the men themselves who have arrived, or a prudent measure, to leave so large a body of unemployed men encamped at East London, for whom, when increased by the arrival of their comrades, it would be very difficult to find transport for the purpose of removing their baggage and stores to the localities where they are to be finally settled.

I have therefore to request that your Excellency will be good enough to give orders for the march of the detachments of the strength named in the enclosed memorandum assigned to each detachment, issuing at the same time orders for the supply of rations to the detachments, to which, by the terms of the conditions under which they were enrolled, they are entitled.

The only one of the localities named regarding which I have any doubt is the village of Theopolis, as I have not received any report from the proper authorities of the quantity of land available at that village for the accommodation of the German Legion. I have, therefore, to request that your Excellency, before ordering the march of a detachment of 50 men to that place, will ascertain from the civil authorities whether there is sufficient land at Theopolis to accommodate a detachment of that strength.

His Excellency Lieut.-Gen. Sir James Jackson, K. C. B.

I have, &c.  
(signed) G. Grey.

— No. 3. —

No. 3.  
Governor Sir G.  
Grey to Right Hon.  
H. Labouchere,  
M. P.  
4 April 1857.

(No. 44.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Honourable H. Labouchere, M. P.

Cape Town, 4 April 1857.  
(Received, 27 May 1857.)

Sir,

(Answered, No. 204, 5 June 1857, page 5.)

THE overland post from Kaffraria has just arrived, and as the monthly mail for England is on the point of closing, I think it will be interesting to you to hear that the reports received state that everything in Kaffraria continues tranquil, and that nothing worthy of notice has taken place since I left that country upon the 26th ultimo. The German military settlers are taking up their several locations, their conduct is entirely satisfactory, and the experiment of sending them to this country will, I have no doubt, prove a successful one.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M. P.,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) G. Grey.

— No. 4. —

No. 4.  
Governor Sir G.  
Grey to Right Hon.  
H. Labouchere,  
M. P.  
8 June 1857.

(No. 68.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Honourable H. Labouchere, M. P.

Cape Town, 8 June 1857.  
(Received, 29 July 1857.)

Sir,

A GOOD opportunity offering of communication with England, I think it may interest you to hear that affairs upon the frontier and in Kaffraria continue in the most satisfactory state, and that I have no doubt that, if the measures in progress

progress are consistently persevered in, it may now be said that our way to the final settlement of the difficulties which so long prevailed in this country can be distinctly seen.

2. The Colonial Parliament is still sitting, but the session is now drawing near its close. The several measures brought forward by the Government have all been passed, either as proposed or with right modifications, and ample supplies have been most cheerfully voted for the public service, including a vote of 50,000*l.* to be expended in the current and ensuing year in introducing European immigrants into this colony.

3. I think I am justified in saying that the colony of the Cape of Good Hope and British Kaffraria are, at the present moment, as flourishing and contented as any part of Her Majesty's dominions.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M. P.,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *G. Grey.*

— No. 5. —

(No. 79.)

COPY OF DESPATCH from Governor Sir *George Grey* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P.

Cape Town, 6 July 1857.  
(Received, 6 September 1857.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, in order that Her Majesty's pleasure may be taken thereon, an Act of Parliament of the Cape of Good Hope for establishing more effectually the settlement in this colony of certain military settlers.

2. In your despatch, No. 115, of the 10th of November last \*, you called my attention to the legal position of the officers and men of the German Legion who had volunteered to proceed to the Cape of Good Hope, and to the necessity which existed for their being, by some local enactment, placed under military law, so far as and whenever this may be expedient.

3. You will find that the enclosed enactment makes all necessary provision for bringing the military settlers, both of officers and men, under the Articles of War, and the Act for punishing mutiny and desertion, and all other laws for the time being applicable to Her Majesty's troops in this colony, during the term of their engagement to do military service, in so far as the same may be by the Governor thought necessary for the due maintenance of military discipline.

4. I avail myself of this opportunity to transmit the copy of a proclamation which I have issued as High Commissioner, bringing the enclosed enactment of the Cape Parliament into force in British Kaffraria, so that this law now prevails throughout all Her Majesty's possessions in this portion of South Africa.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M. P.,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *G. Grey.*

Enclosure in No. 5.

(Act No. 5 of 1857.)

Encl. in No. 5.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

An Act for establishing more effectually the Settlement in this Colony of certain Military Settlers.

WHEREAS a number of officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers of the British German Legion have recently immigrated to this colony in order to become military settlers therein; and whereas it is expedient that due provision should be made for the preservation of discipline and good order among the said settlers, so long as they remain bound to do military service; be it enacted, by the Governor of the Cape of Good Hope, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly thereof, as follows:

I. The

\* *Vide Papers on the state of the Kaffir Tribes, presented 31 March 1857, page 70.*

Military settlers of the German Legion subject to the Articles of War, and other laws applicable to Her Majesty's troops.

Governor may, by proclamation, declare what parts only of such laws shall apply to such settlers.

Governor may, by proclamation, lay down rules for the conduct of settlers; offences against them how to be tried and punished.

Limitation of fine.

Offences against such rules punishable by fines not to be prosecuted under Articles of War.

Rules may be revoked or altered by proclamation.

I. The military settlers aforesaid, as well officers as men, shall during the term of their engagement to do military service as military settlers, be subject to the Articles of War, and to the Act for punishing mutiny and desertion, and all other laws for the time being applicable to Her Majesty's troops in this colony: provided, however, that the Governor of the colony for the time being may, by proclamation, to be published in the "Government Gazette," direct that all or any of the provisions of the said laws shall not apply to the said military settlers, or to such of them as shall be specified and described in any such proclamation: provided also, that the said Governor may, by proclamation, revoke or alter any former proclamation, as circumstances may seem to require.

II. It shall be lawful for the Governor for the time being, by any proclamation to be published in the "Government Gazette," to lay down such rules as he may deem necessary for the conduct and control of the said military settlers, or any of them, who may be specified and described in such proclamation, during their term of military service, and to define what shall be offences punishable by such rules, and in what manner, whether by fine or by expulsion from the force, such offences shall be punished, and by what courts or persons offenders against any such rules shall be tried: provided that no fine exceeding 10*l*. shall be imposed by any such rule; and provided also, that no act or omission constituting an offence under or against any such rule, which act or omission would also be a violation of the Articles of War, or any other of the military laws in the first section of this Act mentioned, shall be prosecuted under the Articles of War or other military law, in case such offence shall, by the rules aforesaid, be punishable only by a fine: and provided that the Governor aforesaid may, from time to time, by proclamation, revoke or alter the rules in force for the time being, or any of them.

Given at Government House, this 29th day of June 1857. By command of his Excellency the Governor.

(signed) *Ratson W. Ratson,*  
Colonial Secretary.

— No. 6. —

No. 6.

(Separate.)

Governor Sir G. Grey to Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M. P.

29 Oct. 1857.

COPY OF DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Honourable H. Labouchere, M. P.

Cape Town, 29 October 1857.

(Received, 23 December 1857.)

Sir,

(Answered, No. 305, 5 February 1858, page 43.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit for your information copies of a public and of a private letter which I have received from Major-general Baron von Stutterheim, resigning the appointment he held in the corps of German Military Settlers in this country. He informs me that he is forced to take this step from urgent family affairs. I most sincerely regret his having been forced to do so, as I fear his retirement will prove unfortunate for the final success of the plan of military colonization which has hitherto proceeded so well; but as you will find from the enclosed copy of my reply to Baron Stutterheim, I have provisionally accepted his resignation until Her Majesty's pleasure is known.

I cannot speak in too high terms of the manner in which Baron Stutterheim has performed his duties here, or of the cordial and friendly assistance he has at all times afforded me, and I can assure you that I shall regard his retirement from this country as a most serious loss.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M. P.  
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *G. Grey.*

Encl. 1, in No. 6.

Enclosure 1, in No. 6.

Sir,

Stutterheim, British Kaffraria, 13 October 1857.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that the very sad news I received from my family imperatively demand my speedy return to Germany. I therefore humbly beg that your Excellency will be pleased to permit me to retire at once from my present situation, a situation which was entrusted to me by Her Majesty's Government, and which, under your Excellency's superior and generous guidance, I have endeavoured to fulfil to their and your satisfaction.

It is about six months ago, since the German military settlers arrived at their different locations, which, at that time, were nothing but barren, uncultivated spots of land, a perfect wilderness. At the present moment 18 villages, some more advanced, some less, have arisen from the ground, and marks of cultivation are seen everywhere about them.

These

These villages will form excellent places of reception for coming emigrants, who, I have no doubt, will shortly pour into this colony in numerous quantities. In fact the success of the German military settlement has ceased to be a matter of question, it has become a matter of fact. But it seems to me to be indispensably required to keep the German force for at least another six months on full pay, the price of the most common necessities of life being so enormously high, that it is impossible for any man to exist on half-pay. Were the settlers to lose their full pay before the new crops are reaped, they would all be forced to leave their present locations for the purpose of seeking, either in the colony or with the Dutch boers, for means of subsistence. The barrier drawn by them between the native population and the Europeans would thus be broken, and the protection which otherwise they would have been able to afford to the colony would be lost.

As soon as I shall be favoured with your Excellency's reply, which I trust may be as early as convenient, I shall, with your sanction, resign my Chief Commissionership into the hands of Colonel Woodbridge, who by Her Majesty's Government was appointed Assistant Commissioner. The very first conveyance will then take me to Cape Town on my way to Europe.

His Excellency  
Sir George Grey, K. C. B.,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) R. Stutterheim,  
Major-General,  
Chief Commissioner German Military Settlers.

Enclosure 2, in No. 6.

Encl. 2, in No. 6.

Sir,  
It is with great regret that I have received your letter of the 13th instant, informing me of the imperative necessity which exists for your resigning your appointment, and returning forthwith to Europe. I cannot but feel that this fact may have an important influence upon the future success of the German military settlers, and may prove most unfortunate for the whole plan, but under the circumstances stated, no course is left open to me other than provisionally to accept the resignation which you have tendered; it must rest with Her Majesty to determine whether or not it is to be finally accepted, which point will be settled when you arrive in Europe.

I feel greatly indebted to you for the zeal and ability with which you have conducted the plan of military colonisation up to the present moment, but I will revert to this subject on another occasion. It will be proper, as you suggest, that you should hand over the Chief Commissionership to Colonel Woodbridge, until such time as Her Majesty's pleasure is known.

Major-General  
Baron Von Stutterheim,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) G. Grey.

— No. 7. —

(No. 154.)

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Honourable H. Labouchere, M.P., dated 30th October 1857.

(Received, 23 December 1857.)  
(Answered, No. 286, 5 January 1858, page 41.)

"I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 239,\* of the 14th of September last, in which you notify to me the disapproval of Her Majesty's Government of my having called out the German military settlers, stating, although apparently with some doubt, that the necessity of maintaining order among the newly disembarked German military settlers may have been a sufficient justification for keeping them under arms in a case not provided for in the conditions, and then going on to add, apparently upon some remarks which have emanated from the War Department, that although the particular case contemplated in the conditions for throwing a further great expense upon Great Britain had not arisen, although there was no enemy in the field, nor any present apprehension of such an enemy, the German settlers were retained as a military force, in addition to no less than 10 British regiments, besides the Cape Mounted Rifles, for no part of which expense did I appear to intend to call upon the colony to provide.

"I beg to state that I will hereafter show that the necessity for maintaining order among the German settlers would, alone, have necessitated my keeping them under arms, but I think it due alike to myself and to Her Majesty's Govern-

No. 7.  
Governor Sir G.  
Grey to Right Hon.  
H. Labouchere,  
M. P.  
30 Oct. 1857.  
\* Page 40.



ment, at once to reply to that portion of your despatch in which you state that there were no military reasons for my so doing.

"Previously to my taking this step, I had, in various despatches, reported to Her Majesty's Government the disturbed state of Kaffraria, arising from the chiefs compelling their people, either by superstition or by threats, to destroy all their means of subsistence. At the moment of the arrival of the German military settlers this infatuation was at its height, and war was by everybody momentarily expected. The great majority of persons in this country believed that war could not be prevented, unless, indeed, most extraordinary measures were taken. This is so well known, that no one who has any knowledge of South Africa could venture to deny it. I determined not to abandon a single farm or farmer, until every effort had been made to keep the Kaffirs out of the colony, but to maintain a resolute front, and I feel satisfied that my so doing was the means of maintaining general confidence, and of carrying the country through the crisis which it had to pass.

Enclosure.

"How terrible the crisis was will be best shown by the enclosed return, which by a curious coincidence, I received at the same moment that I received your despatch. From this it will be found that 68,034 souls, that is, two-thirds of the population, have disappeared from British Kaffraria alone in the first seven months of this year. British Kaffraria is separated from Kaffraria Proper by a stream, fordable in many directions. The same disappearance has taken place in the latter country, but at least to double the extent, so that about 200,000 barbarians, desperate from starvation, and of a peculiarly fierce and warlike character, had to be got rid of out of the country, before the means of subsistence left would support the remaining population. From this terrific inundation Her Majesty's possessions in this country had to be protected. This has been done; the Kaffir population has dispersed; upwards of 30,000 have become hired servants in the colony; some thousands have fled to Faku's country, and beyond it; some thousands to Moshesh's country; some thousands, I fear, have perished, and some thousands have been supported by charitable aid afforded to them. But Her Majesty's possessions and Her Majesty's subjects have suffered no harm. This great crisis has passed, the colony is peaceable and prosperous, and Her Majesty's forces, instead of being engaged in an expensive and desolating war, are, after having saved this colony, now in a high state of efficiency and discipline, either proceeding, or ready to proceed, to India, there to render, I trust, as good services as they have here.

"I am well aware that, had I allowed this flood of famished barbarians to have overrun the frontier districts of this colony by my supineness, or by my fear of incurring responsibility, and that I had, consequently, at this moment, when Great Britain is pressed by great difficulty, made fresh demands upon her resources, that I should then have failed in my duty to The Queen and to Great Britain. However much, therefore, I may have incurred the displeasure of Her Majesty's Government by my proceedings in this respect, I feel quite confident that I have done my duty, and that no one acquainted with South Africa will admit that I took the steps I did when there was no enemy in the field, nor any apprehension of such an enemy as Her Majesty's advisers have been led to believe.

"I beg, further, to point out that, although it is true there were 10 British regiments in this colony, it should be borne in mind that one of these regiments consisted of only 408 rank and file, and that four other regiments consisted of but little more than 700 rank and file each, so that five out of the 10 regiments gave a total strength of only 3,266 rank and file, and several of the other regiments were very much below their complement.

"I hope, therefore, that a review of the fearful crisis (one but rarely equalled in history) through which this colony has in safety passed, taken in connexion with the fact that it has, consequently, at this moment of difficulty shown itself a source of strength, and not of weakness, to Great Britain, will satisfy Her Majesty's advisers that I was, even in a military point of view, justified in calling out the German military settlers."

*Note.*—Some enclosures which accompanied this despatch are not printed, as they enter very fully into the details of the military means for the defence of the country.

Enclosure in No. 7.

BRITISH KAFFRARIA.—(Exclusive of Crown Reserve).

RETURN called for by the Chief Commissioner in Circular, dated 1st August 1857, relative to Population.

MAGISTRATES.	LOCATION.	Probable Number of Kwaish, Population, and Fire-arms, 1st January 1857.					Probable Number of Kwaish, Population, and Fire-arms, 31st July 1857.					REMARKS.
		Number of Kwaish.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Number of Souls.	Number of Kwaish.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Number of Souls.	
Captain Reece -	Kama -	416	3,416	3,377	6,245	12,006	185	845	1,512	3,046	5,006	6,042
Major Gawler -	Umbala -	653	4,842	6,256	12,910	22,714	336	300	1,210	3,153	5,077	17,087
Lieutenant Lucas -	Macome -	47	600	760	1,550	3,000	19	Not accurately ascertained.	77	103	200	2,800
	Botman -	35	500	600	000	2,000	27	568	180	300	446	1,552
Mr. Brownlee -	Sandili -	720	14,000	17,000	31,000	61,000	101	300	800	2,760	4,550	36,460
	Xoxo -	78	1,400	1,400	3,200	2,200	21	36	68	310	506	2,652
	Fynn -	109	1,720	1,000	3,600	3,600	16	40	180	306	602	2,656
Mr. Ayliff -	Toice -	08	Not reported.	426	861	1,611	66	126	312	720	1,403	346
Major Hawkes -	Sirani -	000	1,478	1,747	2,506	6,028	321	463	1,556	3,004	6,576	Increase 642 souls. This increase in Sirani's Location is accounted for by the great influx of refugees from other tribes; although many of Bang's tribe have left the location for service in the colony.
Mr. Vigne -	Pato and Stock -	646	2,335	4,400	4,361	6,696	376	006	800	1,072	2,067	5,620
Captain Fielding -	Sali -	116	465	523	050	1,038	00	175	280	420	1,067	671
	Jan Tuitze -	66	692	703	1,066	2,381	62	70	518	641	1,010	210
Captain Robertson -	Oba -	06	Not accurately ascertained.	600	1,375	2,603	56	Not accurately ascertained.	504	1,071	2,200	490
	Asia -	71	624	780	1,326	2,780	56	568	680	1,071	2,205	525
Total -		3,842	50,043	64,076	104,721	17,796	-	6,401	0,616	10,126	37,220	60,054

Note.—Reports of the special magistrates under docket.

The accuracy of these returns may be depended on for all the locations except those of Umbala and Pato. The great extent of these prevented the magistrates from taking a strict census, but the numbers given for these two locations have been carefully estimated.

I propose to call upon the magistrates to furnish an with a similar return early next year, exhibiting any affect produced on the population between the 31st July and the 31st December, in which census the Crown Reserve will be included.

(signed) John Maclean, Chief Commissioner.

— No. 8. —

(No. 155.)

No. 8.  
Governor Sir G.  
Grey to Right Hon.  
H. Labouchere,  
M. P.

31 Oct. 1857.

\* Page 29.

COPY OF DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Honourable  
H. Labouchere, M. P.

Cape Town, 31 October 1857.

(Received, 7 January 1858.)

(Answered, No. 296, 3 February 1858, page 42.)

Sir,

In my despatch, No. 154,\* of yesterday's date, in reporting upon the military necessity, which existed for calling out the German Legion, I enclosed you General Michel's opinion upon the state of the country at the beginning of this year. I beg now to add to that despatch, the copy of a brigade order, issued by General Taylor at King William's Town, at the beginning of the present month, in which you will find he states in the most distinct manner, that in the month of October 1854, a Kaffir war was imminent, and that hostilities were, in fact, threatened, with only occasional intermissions, down to the second quarter of the year 1857.

2. In fact, even in September of the present year, many persons best acquainted with South Africa, believed that a considerable army must have been marched against the Chief Vadamna, and it was not until he was defeated and taken prisoner, as I reported in my despatch, No. 148, of the 3d of October, that the possibility of a war could be considered as at an end.

3. In farther illustration of this subject, I enclose extracts from the journal of the Bishop of Cape Town, who was at the close of the year 1856 travelling on the frontier; you will find that he believed a war was almost certain to break out, and that he states that such was the general opinion in the country.

I have, &amp;c.

(signed) G. Grey.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M. P.,  
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure No. 1.  
Brigade Order.

Enclosure No. 2.  
Extracts from  
Journal of Bishop  
of Cape Town.

Encl. 1, in No. 8.

Enclosure 1, in No. 8.

**SOLDIERS!**—Three years have passed since I took command of the troops in Kaffraria, which have varied from 34 battalions, and troops of Cape Mounted Riflemen, at an early period, to subsequently, 5 regiments of infantry and 5 troops, with a demi-battery of artillery, and 2 companies of engineers. I found on my arrival here that war was considered imminent,—hostilities in fact threatened, with only occasional intermissions, down to the second quarter of this year, and the then anticipated murders and robberies finally subsided into the present calm. During this period, many of your brother soldiers on other fields have had the better fortune to perform more brilliant services, and to elicit thereby the approbation of our Queen; but you have proved, by your steady observance of discipline under the circumstances in which you have been placed, that you possess those high and enduring qualities which distinguish the British Army, and I cannot relinquish my command of this district of Kaffraria and of the 2d brigade without recording that you have thereby merited my approbation.

To the officers commanding regiments and detachments,—to the heads of departments,—and to the officers of my district station and personal staff—my thanks are especially due.

**Soldiers!**—Having had no object during my command, but your welfare and the honour of Her Majesty's Arms, it is most grateful to my heart to record that your conduct has afforded me the assurance that you at least have estimated my kind feelings towards you, and my entire devotion to the honour of that service of our Gracious Sovereign, to which we have consecrated our lives. **Soldiers!**—and friends—it now only remains for me to utter to you that word of sorrow—Farewell.

Encl. 2, in No. 8.

Enclosure 2, in No. 8.

EXTRACTS from the Journal of the Bishop of Cape Town, 1856.

Page 22.—At this post there are several hundred men. It is situated in a beautiful and fertile spot, and already there is almost a village rising up round it. This is, I believe, to be the head quarters of the German Legion, who are soon coming out. It will be strange if the prospect of the arrival of these men should be the chief cause of the present war. Many think that this is the case; the Kaffirs are said to feel that their last chance of striking for victory is the present moment, before the arrival of this overpowering force."

Page 25.

Page 25.—We found people in King William's Town as uncertain about the war as other folks. There is a general impression, however, that it is to break out when the moon is full, and the 14th is named as the day. There are some features in the present state of Kaffraria, which have not exhibited themselves on former occasions. Not only have they a prophet—that they had before—but on the present occasion they are, by all accounts, worked up to a pitch of fanaticism that they have never previously displayed. The prophet claims their implicit faith and obedience; tells them to destroy all their cattle, goats, mealies, &c., and to part with their most highly prized ornaments and property. This they are doing most profusely. They are not only eating their cattle, but selling oxen for 10 s. or 12 s., and when they cannot sell them, they kill them. Goats are sold for 2 s. or 3 s., chickens for 2 d. or 3 d. Mealies are thrown away; mares (a species of property they are usually most unwilling to part with) are eagerly sold; their most cherished hereditary ornaments parted with for a mere trifle. It is said that they are promised, when they have parted with all things in faith, that they shall be restored to them tenfold, by a kind of resurrection. People think that the prophet is not the tool of the Gaika and Telambio chiefs, though he may be Crefi's tool. Sandilli and Macomo, and Pato, and Umhalla are all said to be unfavourable to war. But what the real state of things is, nobody knows. Be it that they are not meditating war upon us, but only worked up to frenzy by some instrument of Satan, who is driving them headlong to destruction, one can not help seeing that, unless averted by some merciful providence, war must be the result; for when the present excitement shall have passed away, and this poor people shall have discovered their delusion, they will be in a starving state, and must steal for their subsistence, unless the Governor shall be able to employ great numbers of them on the public works, and provide rations for them.

Page 53.—From thence we went on to Frayer's Camp, seven miles; the first three or four of which were a continual, and, in some parts, steep ascent from the Fish River, through bush. There is an excellent inn at Frayer's Camp, and we enjoyed a comfortable night's rest. Here, too, we heard of nothing but the impending war, farmers trekking, loss of stock, sheep just lambing driven off, the lambs being left with their throats cut; Graham's Town arming itself, and enrolling its inhabitants for another deadly struggle. After breakfast we again mounted our little nags, which had been somewhat wearied with their previous day's journey, and rode into Graham's Town in good time, thankful that we had escaped the perils of the way, and were safe out of Kaffraria; for, if war had broken out while we were there, and Pato, as was expected, had joined in it, we should probably have been cooped up in King William's Town for some time, perhaps for months.

On reaching Graham's Town, we found that the farmers in Lower Albany were also trekking, but that the alarm about the war was subsiding in the town, for no assignable reason, and that waggons with stores were being forwarded to Kaffraria.

— No. 9. —

(No. 172.)

COPY OF DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Honourable H. Labouchere, M. P.

Cape Town, 25 November 1857.  
(Received, 8 January 1858.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the copy of a letter I have received from Major-general Baron Von Stutterheim, pressing on me the necessity which exists for the appointment of an additional chaplain for the German military settlers, and I beg that you will be pleased to send on this recommendation for the consideration of the Right honourable the Secretary for War.

2. If the Home Government build a house for this chaplain, in the same manner as for the other chaplains of the force, there will be no difficulty in at once paying his salary from the revenues of Kaffraria.

3. If this arrangement is approved of it would perhaps be convenient to allow Baron Stutterheim, who is returning to Europe, to select a chaplain for the German military settlers.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M. P.  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) G. Grey.

No. 9.  
Governor Sir G.  
Grey to Right Hon.  
H. Labouchere,  
M. P.  
25 Nov. 1857.

Enclosure.  
23 Nov. 1857.

Encl. in No. 9.

Enclosure in No. 9.

Sir,

Cape Town, 23 November 1857.

THE detachments of the 1st regiment German Military Settlers, about 350 in number, located at Panmure and Cambridge, being some 50 miles removed from the head quarters of their corps, where their chaplain resides, and at least 25 miles distant from the residence of the nearest chaplain at Berlin, I would respectfully request that a German clergyman may be appointed to the spiritual charge of the detachments as early as possible.

His Excellency  
Sir George Grey, K. C. B.,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) R. v. Statterheim,  
Major-General.

— No. 10. —

(No. 173.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right  
Honourable H. Labouchere, M. P.

Cape Town, 26 November 1857.  
(Received, 6 January 1858.)

Sir,

(Answered, No. 296, 3 February 1858, page 2.)

No. 10.  
Governor Sir G.  
Grey to Right Hon.  
H. Labouchere,  
M. P.  
26 Nov. 1857.

\* Page 29.  
No. 239, 14 Sept.  
1857, page 40.

In my despatch, No. 154,\* of the 30th ultimo, in reply to your despatch, noted in the margin, I promised to show that the necessity for maintaining order amongst the German military settlers would alone have rendered it necessary for me to have called them out under arms upon their first arrival in the colony. I now beg, in reference to that point, to report as follows:

The statement which, by direction of Her Majesty's Government, I made to the Colonial Parliament in regard to the German Legion, was, that the number of non-commissioned officers and privates, who would offer themselves and be eligible for this service, would amount, perhaps, to 8,000, and that it was likely that a large proportion of officers would accompany them. The greater number of the men would have wives and families, and if it were thought desirable, others, not at present married, would be glad to enter into that state, with a prospect of a fixed settlement.

2. The number of non-commissioned officers and privates who actually arrived was only 2,300. They were accompanied by an unusually large proportion of officers and gentlemen cadets. The total number of females accompanying this force was 330, of which number at least 130 must have been either wives or children of the officers of the force, thus leaving only 200 females (a number of whom must have been female children) for the entire body of non-commissioned officers and privates of the German Legion, instead of at least 1,600 wives alone, as the inhabitants of this country would have been justified in expecting, from the terms of the proposal made by Her Majesty's Government.

3. This unmarried force was not to be quartered in barracks, where the men could have been kept under some control, but each man was to have a separate cottage. It would, in practice, have been impossible to have kept together more than 2,000 unmarried men under such a system as this, at a rate of pay which barely sufficed for their support, whilst by dispersing they could have obtained an exorbitant rate of wages. The experiment must have resulted in the force breaking up and dispersing, and this more especially as they were at that time not subject to the provisions of the Mutiny Act.

4. Although the German Legion contained many excellent men, it contained also many desperate characters, collected from several nations, and from some of the worst continental towns. Even subject to the strict control and discipline under which I have kept them, they have committed three or four desperate murders in less than a year, the details of one of which has reached me whilst I am writing this despatch, in the enclosed newspaper. Unnatural offences have, on various occasions, been committed by some of them, and other offences of a very grave character.

Enclosure.

6. If

5. If I had let these men loose from control, and they had prowled in bands, probably armed, through a country the language of which they did not speak, the inhabitants of which are chiefly farmers living in homesteads far apart from each other, quite unprotected, with much property about them, it is fearful to think what scenes must have followed, and what would have been the feelings of the inhabitants of South Africa, as regards both myself and Her Majesty's Government. It is not too much to say that, under such circumstances, the German Legion would at this moment have been lost as a protection to this country; large numbers of troops would have been required to hunt down bands of robbers, a sullen disaffection would have prevailed amongst the people of South Africa, whilst disturbances, created by the troops being employed elsewhere, would have prevailed with the native tribes on the frontier.

6. On the contrary, the inhabitants of South Africa are now exceeded, in their loyalty and attachment to the Crown, by no people in the world. They are making exertions, by their personal services, by large subscriptions, in fact, by every means in their power, to aid Her Majesty's Government in the present crisis in India, and to set troops free for service in that country. The German Legion is in hand in an efficient state, and is ready to take up the duties of the troops we are sending on to India. The entire country is prosperous, tranquil, and contented.

7. I see, farther, that it has been stated that I have been the means of destroying the Anglo-Saxon spirit of the people in this country, by teaching them not to rely in any degree upon their own exertions for their protection, but to look for that to an exterior source. On this point I can appeal confidently to the Parliament and people of this country to rebut such a statement. Let the whole past history of the colony be examined, and be compared with the last three years; and then, after such a comparison, let any person, partial or impartial, decide whether or not the exertions made by the people of South Africa to provide for their own defence during my administration have not far surpassed those which they have made at any previous time.

1stly. They felt that their best source of defence would consist in their European population bearing, at least, some reasonable numerical proportion to the coloured races; and therefore, although they had many prejudices to overcome, they, at my request, voted 50,000 £. to enable the Government to commence a system of introducing immigrants upon a large scale into the colony.

2dly. There was no law, when I arrived here, for compelling the inhabitants of the colony to take the field against an enemy. A Burgher law, for that purpose, has been passed by the Colonial Parliament.

3dly. When I assumed the Government there were no volunteer corps in existence; since my arrival here 19 such corps have been raised, all armed, clothed (and mounted, in the case of the cavalry) at their own cost. These are now generally in a state of high efficiency.

4thly. So far have I been from encouraging the colony to look to have bodies of troops quartered in their towns that, during the whole time of my residence here, Cape Town has been almost denuded of troops, and during a portion of that time not a single effective soldier, with the exception of a few artillery-men, was in the place, whilst the inhabitants of the town had to take the garrison duty.

5thly. When I arrived here, there were only a few mounted police employed in some border divisions of the colony, under the direction of the Civil Commissioner of each of such divisions, but with no power of moving out of it. The cost of this force was paid out of a small reserved schedule of 14,000 £ per annum, kept under the control of the Home Government for frontier purposes. The Colonial Parliament have now, at my recommendation, passed a law, organising an irregular mounted military force of 500 men, which I am increasing to 600 men. This force is under the command of the general, may be employed either in the colony or beyond its limits, like any other regiment in Her Majesty's service. The Colonial Parliament pays all the cost connected with this force, already exceeding 40,000 £. per annum, and which will soon, probably, amount to 60,000 £. a year.

ethly and lastly. All operations against an enemy have lately been carried on by the burghers of the country and this mounted irregular force, which have thus been trained to act against an enemy in the field, and have gained confidence in themselves, whilst troops have yet been in the country. These military operations, which would have formerly constituted a Kaffir war, have been conducted at no expense whatever to Great Britain, have been most entirely successful, and have attained all the objects contemplated.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) G. Grey.

Encl. in No. 10.

Enclosure in No. 10.

#### POSTSCRIPT.

*Deliberate Murder.*—A most deliberate and atrocious murder was committed in this town last evening, shortly after eight o'clock. The origin and cause, of which this is the shocking effect, as far as circumstances have yet transpired and can be gathered by us, are as nearly as possible as follows; and in tracing the circumstances to the consummation of the event, display on the part of the murderer a disposition so naturally or habitually bad as to lead one to the supposition that no moral influence would restrain him in the perpetration of the most dreadful atrocities. Amongst the police doing duty in King William's Town was a German or rather a Frenchman drafted from the German Legion, of the name of Grouillere. Shortly after coming into the town, he formed a connexion with a girl of colour, named Hattingh, whom he retained by means of presents of money and other articles from time to time. Being a man of very strong passions, shortly after becoming acquainted with the girl, who was a respectable-looking bastard, his jealousy was aroused in the highest degree by a combination of circumstances, which induced a doubt as to the constancy of the girl Hattingh. With the unreasonableness of men entirely swayed by temper, he never for a moment appeared to think that faithfulness in persons of the class to which she belonged is inconsistent with their usual character, and at once determined that a confirmation of his suspicions would be the death-warrant for her immediate execution. In this frame of mind, he was yesterday morning heard to declare that such was his intention; but instead of being at once taken into custody, he was permitted to roam at will; and while doing so, it appears that circumstances came to his knowledge which he considered a realisation of his fears, and induced him no longer to delay his threatened vengeance. Proceeding in the direction of the river, beyond the gaol, he discovered the girl, pounced upon her, and there and then twice stabbed her, and afterwards cut her throat. After performing this deed, the man at once presented himself at the contractor's kraal, and lodged information against himself. Search was immediately made, and the body discovered in the locality described by him, breath being then almost extinct. The district surgeon was summoned, and, on his arrival, promptly endeavoured to close the gape, and staunch the flowing of blood; but about one hour after receiving the wounds she breathed her last without having uttered a single sentence in crimination of her murderer. These are the circumstances as correctly as they can be gleaned, until after the preliminary examination, which is to take place some time to-day, has been completed. The consummate coolness with which the crime was committed has created much sensation amongst the inhabitants of the town, and considerable curiosity has been aroused to hear the defence of a man, who could thus wantonly take away the life of a human being, at the same time that he was perfectly aware of, and indeed quite willing to meet the certain result. That the murder was premeditated, there are, as our readers will have seen, the surest evidences; and in addition to these, it was discovered that the prisoner had even prepared himself against the contingency of cell during his incarceration, such being the reason alleged by him, when asked to explain the object of two suits of clothing in which his person was encased.

Having intimated above that the prisoner is a private in the German police, we think it a fitting opportunity, and indeed, our bounden duty, to bear strong testimony to the general good conduct of the body of which he is an unworthy member. They have now, for some months past, been actively engaged in preserving peace and order in King William's Town. It is quite unnecessary to inform those who can recall to mind the state of the town eight or 10 months since; the losses and annoyance to which the inhabitants were subjected, by the nightly thefts of cattle, horses, and "winkle" goods, and the awkward crowding of the causeways by Kaffirs during the day, that their efforts have been successful in an eminent degree. The police is formed of the most respectable men (mostly sergeants) connected with the Legion, and, with its experienced superintendent, is certainly entitled to the thanks of the entire community.

— No. 11. —

(No. 174.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Honourable  
H. Labouchere, M.P.

Cape Town, 27 November 1857.

(Received, 8 January 1858.)

No. 11.  
Governor Sir G.  
Grey to Right Hon.  
H. Labouchere,  
M.P.  
27 Nov. 1857.

Sir,

(Answered, No. 305, 5 February 1858, page 43.)

I HAVE just seen Major-general Baron Stutterheim, whose intentions to return to England on very urgent family affairs I reported in my separate \* despatch of the 29th ultimo. He leads me to think it is not impossible that, after arranging the affairs which have compelled his return to Europe, he might be disposed to come back and resume his position in the German Legion in this country. I should feel very glad if Her Majesty's Government would sanction this arrangement, as the Baron's assistance is almost indispensable to me, and I am satisfied that his presence here would be a great advantage to the service in many ways.

\* Page 28.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) G. Grey.

— No. 12. —

(No. 27.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Sir George Grey to the Right Honourable  
H. Labouchere, M.P.

Cape Town, 22 March 1858.

(Received, 1 May 1858.)

No. 12.  
Governor Sir G.  
Grey to Right Hon.  
H. Labouchere,  
M.P.  
22 March 1858.

Sir,

(Answered, No. 35, 1 June 1858, page 50.)

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 305,\* of the 5th of February last, enclosing me the copy of a letter from Sir H. K. Storks to Mr. Merivale, dated the 4th of February, and marked "immediate."

\* Page 43.

2. In this letter it is stated, in reference to the German military settlers being kept under arms, as follows:

"Lord Panmure notices that the plea for placing these men on full pay heretofore urged, namely, that of their having been called out for service in the field, as against an enemy, is entirely abandoned in the papers now before him. It appears, on the contrary, that they are in peaceable occupation of their allotments, and that the only ground on which the measure is advocated has reference to the high price of the necessaries of life."

3. In reply I beg to state that I have never abandoned any plea on which I have justified placing the German military settlers on full pay, and that I have not advocated the measure on the ground of the high price of the necessaries of life, although that might form a strong argument for its necessity; nor has any person been authorised by me to abandon one set of pleas, and put forward another. Lord Panmure must, therefore, refer to the statements of some other person who is not responsible for the safety of this country.

4. Lord Panmure's instructions, as contained in your despatch, to which I am replying, place me in a very great difficulty; they were received here late on the night of the 18th; they cannot reach Kaffraria until the night of the 25th; some days must then elapse ere they can reach the distant stations, and they are to come into operation on the 31st of this month. They are, also, at variance with the previous orders on this subject, which were to this effect: "But I must instruct you that so long as they (the German military settlers) are kept on full pay, they must be kept embodied and doing duty as regular troops, and, in this manner, to supply the place of soldiers required for service in India."

5. These orders have been acted on. One mistake which Lord Panmure has made appears to be this: our military force was broken up into small detachments, stationed in posts along the main lines of roads, protecting our frontier and preserving our main lines of communication. These military posts have



now, in a great measure, been withdrawn, and the duties they performed have been taken up by the German military settlers. Their posts, in a military point of view, are their locations; when these become permanent villages, as they are becoming, no military force will be required there; but if they are abandoned now, all that has been done will be lost, and the country must be reconquered.

6. In less than 12 months the new German married settlers who are coming out, will, in a great measure, be located at these villages, and the task will have been achieved. If now from any cause they are abandoned, British Kaffraria must, in part, be abandoned, or the military force must be restored to its former strength.

7. The pleas on which I have advocated the continuance of the German Legion on full pay were, that if they were not so retained on full pay, until wives were brought out for them, they must break up and disperse; I then mentioned the evils that this would have brought on the colony, and showed how great a breach of faith would have been committed with the people in this colony, who were induced to receive them on a promise, given in the most formal manner by Her Majesty's Government, that the greater part of the men should be accompanied by wives and families. I have exerted myself to the utmost to cause this promise to be practically redeemed, for I might not, as Governor of the colony, to have been made the medium of conveying, on behalf of Her Majesty's Government, such an undertaking to the people I govern, and then be required to break it.

8. The other plea, on which I conceived the German military settlers should be kept under arms, was that of military necessity. Her Majesty's Government distinctly instructed me that I was to aid India to my utmost, and that, as the means of doing this, the German military settlers were to be kept under arms. On this principle I acted, for I regard my instructions as having been most explicit; for instance, on the 20th of August last, you wrote to me, "The Government trust that you will have been able to spare six regiments, which will still leave you four, besides the embodied troops of the German Legion\*, and the Mounted Rifles."

9. Acting on these instructions, five regiments have gone on; a sixth is under orders for embarkation. That is all you ordered. In addition a force of artillery has been sent; our remaining artillery have been crippled by all their horses being taken. The Cape corps rendered temporarily useless, and our best and strongest regiments, as the rule, have been sent on. One regiment detained here is little more than 300 strong. I have pledged myself to Lord Canning to send further reinforcements if required. These latter steps, although not ordered, are all in the spirit of your instructions.

10. Having weakened this colony in this manner, on the faith of orders given to me, I am then told that the German military settlers are to be struck off full pay, and a peremptory order is sent (not through me) to the Lieutenant-general Commanding the Forces, directing him to carry these instructions out, without allowing me any time for preparation.

11. Even with the force I had left, with the German Legion on full pay, you will see that the withdrawal of the 73d regiment from the posts they held along the line of road on the east bank of the Buffalo, has been followed instantly by very untoward and dangerous circumstances.

12. I can only conceive that Her Majesty's Government had forgotten their previous orders, when they issued the latter ones, and that they were neither aware of the force that had gone on, or which was going on to India, or of the present state of this country, and acting on this supposition, I shall do my best to induce the Lieutenant-general to refrain from fully acting on the recent orders, until we can again hear from Her Majesty's Government.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M. P.,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) G. Grey.

Enclosure.  
Memorandum from  
Chief Commissioner,  
British Kaffraria, 15 March  
1858.

## Enclosure in No. 12.

Encl in No. 12.

SCHEDULE of DOCUMENTS submitted for the consideration of His Excellency the High Commissioner.

Fort Murray,  
15 March 1858.

Received,  
(signed) G. Grey.

(Enclosures.)

1. LETTER from resident magistrate, East London, 13th instant, enclosing report of particulars, so far as they can be ascertained, of the barbarous murder of the Rev. Mr. Wilson.

Every exertion has been made to trace the murderers, but as yet, I regret to say, we have not yet succeeded. I have sent out trustworthy spies, but they have not been able to gain any intelligence. I have also issued, in Kaffir and English, a notice offering a reward of 100*l*. for any information which may lead to the apprehension and conviction of the criminals.

I think there can be no doubt that this murder was committed by Kaffirs, lurking at the time in the bush near Fort Grey. And I also think that there is just now so strong a feeling of irritation and disaffection among the Kaffirs, that no white man on foot and unarmed can travel with safety.

I have directed Mr. Vigne to give notice to the people of Pato and Stock that they must move at once into Sali's Country; and I propose to send shortly a strong patrol to clear out the country thoroughly, which should, in my opinion, as I have previously stated, be filled up without delay with Fingoes.

This most lamentable murder, together with a reported attack on a waggon near Fort Grey, will doubtless have the effect of diverting the traffic into the line of road on the east bank of the Buffalo.

(signed) John Maclean,  
Chief Commissioner.

## Despatches from Mr. Secretary Labouchere.

— No. 1. —

(Confidential.)

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable H. Labouchere, M. P., to Governor Sir George Grey.

No. 1.  
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M. P., to Governor Sir G. Grey.  
26 August 1857.

Sir,

Downing-street, 26 August 1857.

It has not yet been possible to receive accounts of the amount of military assistance which you have been able to afford to the Government of India in the present circumstances of that country.

I make no question but that you will have used every exertion to render that assistance as prompt and effective as possible.

From the description you give of the tranquillity of the colony, the Government trust that you will have been able to spare six regiments, which will still leave you four, besides the embodied troops of the German Legion and the Mounted Rifles. In case, however, you should not have already sent six regiments to India (including the one which has gone to Ceylon), I have to instruct you to do so with as little delay as may be practicable; unless, indeed, the circumstances of the colony should have so materially altered since the date of your last despatches as to render this step manifestly dangerous to its security.

The Admiral at the Cape station has received directions respecting the means of transport for the troops.

The Government further propose to send two regiments from this country to remain at the Cape, which will then enable you to send on from thence two other regiments in the same ships to India, where seasoned troops are of great value.

Unless your communications with India give you reason to believe that the troops which you have occasion to send there are wanted at any particular place, it will be best that they should be sent to Point de Galle for subsequent distribution.

Governor Sir George Grey,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

— No. 2. —

(No. 239.)

No. 2.  
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P., to  
Governor Sir G.  
Grey.  
14 Sept. 1857.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P., to  
Governor Sir *George Grey*.

Sir,

Downing-street, 14 September 1857.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 5th June last, answering yours, No. 38, of 25th March last, in which you stated the reasons which rendered it, in your opinion, necessary to call out the German military settlers under arms, I wish to inform you that the subject has received the serious attention of Her Majesty's Government since the brief notice which I then took of the circumstances of this transaction.

\* These "Conditions" will be found printed at page 91 of Papers relating to the Kaffir Tribes, presented to Parliament 2<sup>d</sup> March 1857.

Her Majesty's Government wish to refer you to the printed "Conditions"\* of the 24th September 1856, which were communicated to you when the German military settlers were sent to the Cape. In those conditions it is distinctly specified that "when called out into service in the field against the enemy," the extra expense thus occasioned would be borne by imperial funds, when called out in aid of the civil power by colonial funds.

Your despatch to which I have already referred, intimates that you had kept these settlers under arms as soldiers, not on account of service against the enemy, nor to aid the civil power, but for certain temporary reasons connected with their own management and discipline, into which it is not necessary for me to enter, as they have been already discussed.

But at the same time this department received information through the War department that Baron Von Stutterheim reported "that you had called these settlers out for active service in the field on account of the uncertain state of the country."

I have now received from Lord Panmure copy of a general order issued on the 27th February last by your direction; and his Lordship adds, that it has been intimated to him by the General commanding at the Cape colony, that, in accordance with that order, full pay and allowances as in the field had been issued to the German military settlers from the date of their disembarkation, for which the General requested a covering authority.

The result of these proceedings would appear to be, that although the particular case contemplated in the conditions for throwing a farther expense on this country had not arisen; although there was no enemy in the field, nor any present apprehension of such an enemy, these settlers were to be retained as a military force, in addition to no less than ten British regiments, besides the Cape Mounted Rifles; for no part of which expense (as far as can be collected from your despatch) did you appear to intend to call on the colony to provide.

The necessity of maintaining order among these newly disembarked settlers, reported in your despatch already referred to, may have been a sufficient justification for the step of keeping them under arms in a case not provided for by the conditions. But I am bound to point out to you that your course should have been, in reporting the circumstance, to have stated that you had acted irrespectively of those conditions, and, in particular, to have stated that you meant to apply for payment of the expense from home funds, which in your despatch you omitted to do, leaving me altogether uninformed of the nature and extent of the liability which you intended thus to throw on Her Majesty's Government.

As, however, subsequently to the issue of the general order in question, the disturbed state of India has made it necessary to require that a large force of British troops should proceed thither from the Cape, Her Majesty's Government will not insist,

insist, as they would otherwise have felt bound to do, on the discontinuance of these extra payments out of home funds to the military settlers. But I must instruct you, that so long as they are kept on full pay, they must be kept embodied and doing duty as regular troops, and in this manner to supply the place of soldiers required for the public service in India.

Nor should the soldiers of the German Legion be embodied on any subsequent occasion without a special report to Her Majesty's Government, showing on which of the grounds specified in the "conditions" they were so embodied, or, if on any different and exceptional ground, then to what account it is proposed to charge the expenditure.

Governor Sir George Grey,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

— No. 3. —

(No. 286.)

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P., to  
Governor Sir *George Grey*.

No. 3  
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M. P., to  
Governor Sir G.  
Grey.  
5 January 1853.  
\* Page 29.

Sir,

Downing-street, 5 January 1858.

I HAVE received your despatch, No. 154,\* of 30th October, in reply to mine of the 14th September preceding, relative to your having called out the German military settlers at the Cape of Good Hope under arms.

You state that you think it due alike to yourself and to Her Majesty's Government at once to reply to that portion of my despatch in which I remarked that you appeared to have stated no military reasons for your having taken that step.

I regret that there should be any necessity for my prolonging the correspondence on this subject; but I think it right to point out to you the discrepancies which exist in the statements made to Her Majesty's Government.

In your despatch, No. 38, of 25 March 1857, you represented that, in consequence of the comparatively small number of females who had accompanied the German military settlers, it would be impossible to detain them in their villages as ordinary settlers, as they would roam over the whole country, whilst as a military force they would be quite useless for the defence of the colony. You were therefore of opinion that the only way in which these and other evils which you mentioned could be prevented, until a due proportion of female emigrants had been sent out to the colony, would be to keep the settlers under arms as soldiers, and that this had accordingly been done.

The necessity therefore of embodying the settlers seemed to rest mainly on considerations of internal police; and Her Majesty's Government showed their desire to contribute to remedy the evil complained of by sending out to the colony a vessel with female emigrants from Ireland.

A few days after the receipt of your despatch, Lord Panmure forwarded to me a copy of a letter addressed to him by the Baron von Stutterheim, in which he represented that on account of the uncertain state of the country, you had called the military settlers out for active service in the field, and that you intended to keep them embodied for some time, and he mentioned the military post at which they were to be encamped. I received subsequently from Lord Panmure a copy of a general order, dated 27 February 1857, stating that you had been pleased to call out for service in the field, as against an enemy, the corps of the British German Legion, under the 10th condition of their enrolment, from the date of their disembarkation.

But before the receipt of this communication from Lord Panmure I had received a later despatch from you, dated 4 April 1857,\* in which, after reporting that everything in Kaffraria continued tranquil, you stated that the German military settlers were taking up their several locations; that their conduct was entirely satisfactory, and that you had no doubt that the experiment of sending them to the country would prove successful.

It was with these conflicting statements before me that my despatch, No. 239,\* of 14 September last, was written; and my assertion that the settlers had been retained as a military force, although there was no enemy in the field, nor any present apprehension of such an enemy, was founded on your representations that

the power and influence of the Kaffir chiefs continued rapidly to decline, and that the tribes themselves were broken up, large numbers of the natives having gone into the Cape Colony to be employed as labourers.

I certainly therefore do not think that I had at that time reason to suppose that you entertained so strong a belief of the necessity of embodying the German Legion, for the purpose of the defence of the colony, as you now appear to have done. But I see no advantage in protracting this controversy. I assure you that I do full justice to the energy and ability which you have evinced in the protection of the colony at a most critical and trying period, to the success of which the prosperity it now enjoys is to be attributed. If the maintenance of the German Legion under arms has enabled you, as I trust it will, considerably to increase the succours which you will have afforded to the Government of India, the result of that step will have been a fortunate one, on whatever grounds it may have originally been taken.

Governor Sir George Grey,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

— No. 4. —

(No. 296.)

No. 4.  
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P., to  
Governor Sir G. Grey.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P., to  
Governor Sir G. Grey.

Sir,

Downing-street, 3 February 1858.

3 Feb. 1858.  
\* Pages 32 and 34.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches, No. 155,\* of 31 October, and No. 173,\* of 26 November, the former transmitting further documents to show the military necessity which existed for calling out the German military settlers under arms, and the latter showing that the necessity for maintaining order amongst them would alone have rendered it necessary for you to have taken that step.

It appears clearly from those despatches that in your opinion the justification of calling out the German military settlers rested on the two-fold ground of the requirements of military defence and of considerations of police.

\* Page 41.

I do not feel it necessary to add anything to what I have said on this subject in my despatch, No. 286,\* of the 5th instant.

You will, I trust, take care on any future occasion, when the Legion is called out for active service, to specify distinctly, in so doing, on what grounds it is embodied for active service, and on what funds the expense thereby occasioned should consequently be charged.

Governor Sir George Grey,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

— No. 5. —

(No. 301.)

No. 5.  
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P., to  
Governor Sir G. Grey.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P., to  
Governor Sir G. Grey.

Sir,

Downing-street, 4 February 1858.

4 Feb. 1858.  
\* Page 33.

I HAVE received your despatch, No. 172,\* of 25 November last, recommending the appointment of a third chaplain for the German military settlers at the Cape of Good Hope, and stating that if the Home Government will build a house for this chaplain, there will be no difficulty in paying his salary from the revenues of Kaffraria; and I have to acquaint you that Lord Panmure, to whom your despatch was referred, has apprised me that houses have already been provided by the Imperial Government for the number of chaplains which was considered sufficient to attend to the religious wants of the military settlers, and that his Lordship is of opinion that if an additional chaplain is appointed, the whole expense attending such an arrangement should be defrayed by the Colonial Government.

Governor Sir George Grey,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

— No. 6. —

(No. 305.)

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P., to Governor Sir *G. Grey*.

Sir,

Downing-street, 5 February 1858.

I HAVE received your despatches, Separate,\* of 29 October, and No. 174,\* 27 November last, reporting the resignation by Baron Stutterheim of the appointment he held in the corps of German military settlers at the Cape of Good Hope, but stating your hope that the Baron may be able to resume his position after the arrangement of his private affairs; and I transmit, for your information and guidance, a copy of a letter, with its enclosure, from the War Office, on the subject of Baron Stutterheim's return to the colony, and the continuance, as recommended by him, of full pay to the military settlers until the 31st March next, to enable them to gather in their crops.

Governor Sir George Grey,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *H. Labouchere*.

Enclosure in No. 6.

No. 6.  
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P., to Governor Sir G. Grey.  
5 Feb. 1858.  
\* Pages 28 and 37.

Enclosure.  
4 Feb. 1858.

Encl. in No. 6.

Sir,

War Office, 4 February 1848.

I HAVE laid before Lord Panmure your letter of the 29th ultimo, with its enclosures from the Governor of the Cape of Good Hope, in which he reports that Major-general Von Stutterheim had been compelled, by severe domestic affliction, to return to Europe, and had in consequence resigned the appointment he held in the corps of German military settlers.

I am to request that you will acquaint Mr. Secretary Labouchere, in reply, that Lord Panmure consents to the resumption by Baron Von Stutterheim, as recommended by Governor Sir G. Grey, of his appointment as Chief Commissioner, should he be disposed to return to the colony; nor will his Lordship object, under the urgent circumstances stated in support of the measure, to the continuance of the settlers on full-pay until the expiration of the period named in Baron Von Stutterheim's letter, viz., six months, or until the 31st March next, to enable them to gather in their crops.

Lord Panmure notices that the plea for placing these men on full pay heretofore urged, namely, that of their being "called out for service in the field, as against an enemy," is entirely abandoned in the papers now before him; it appears, on the contrary, that they are in peaceable occupation of their allotments, and that the only ground on which the measure is advocated has reference to the high price of the necessaries of life. This, as Mr. Labouchere is aware, forms no ground whatever to entitle them to Imperial full pay under the conditions of settlement submitted to Parliament; and Lord Panmure feels that he is incurring some responsibility in sanctioning their being continued on such pay even until the 31st March. His Lordship has instructed the Lieutenant-general commanding that the Military Chest is not to be drawn upon for any extra pay on account of these settlers after that date, unless, indeed, they have really to be called out for active service. I am to enclose a copy of the despatch which Lord Panmure has addressed to Lieutenant-general Sir J. Jackson on this subject.

Herman Merivale, Esq.  
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.  
(signed) *H. K. Storks*.

Sub-enclosure in No. 6.

Sub-enclosure.

Sir,

War Office, 4 February 1858.

I HAVE to acquaint you that in consequence of the representations which have been received from Governor Sir G. Grey, and the Baron von Stutterheim, Her Majesty's Government have consented to the corps of German military settlers being continued on full pay until the 31st of March proximo. It must then cease, as no provision has been made in the estimates about to be submitted to Parliament for the issue of full pay to these settlers during any portion of the ensuing financial year, and I have to convey to you the most stringent instructions not to draw on the Military Chest for the extra pay of these men beyond the period I have named, unless the colony should unfortunately again be threatened with hostile aggression, and it should in consequence be found necessary to call out the corps for "military duty in the field."

Lieutenant-general  
Sir James Jackson, K. C. B.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *Panmure*.

## Despatches from the Right Honourable Lord Stanley.

— No. 1. —

No. 1.  
Lord Stanley, M. P.,  
to Governor Sir G.  
Grey.  
1 March 1858.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord Stanley, M. P., to  
Governor Sir George Grey.

(No. 1.)

Sir,

Downing-street, 1 March 1858.

I TRANSMIT for your information copies of a correspondence between the War Office and this department, relative to estimates which have been sent home by the paymaster of the 3d corps of German military settlers at the Cape of Good Hope, for building houses for the officers and men, and for providing cooking utensils and tools.

I have, &amp;c.

(signed) Stanley.

Governor Sir George Grey,  
&c. &c. &c.

War Office,  
16 Jan. 1858.  
Enclosure 1.  
Colonial Office,  
29 Jan. 1858.  
Enclosure 2.  
War Office,  
24 Feb. 1858.  
Enclosure 3.

Encl. 1, in No. 1.

Enclosure 1, in No. 1.

Sir,

War Office, 16 January 1858.

THE paymaster of the 3d Regiment German Military Settlers at the Cape of Good Hope, having transmitted an estimate for sums required for the settlement of this corps, the particulars of which estimate are herewith furnished,

I am directed by the Secretary of State for War to request, with reference to the conditions under which this military settlement has been sanctioned, that you will submit the statement of expenditure to Mr. Secretary Labouchere, with the view to his taking such steps in the matter as may be necessary, Lord Panmure not knowing whether the local Government has or not exercised any control over the outlay, nor how far the existing wants of the settlement justify the expenditure proposed for building the huts of the force.

I have, &amp;c.

(signed) B. Hawes.

H. Merivale, Esq., &c. &c.,  
Colonial Office.

## Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure 1, in No. 1.

ESTIMATE of the Sum required by General Order of 20 April 1857, in accordance with Articles 16 and 32 of the Conditions, for building Houses for the Officers, Non-commissioned Officers and Men of the Third Cape Corps, British German Legion, including attached Cavalry.

NUMBER.	RANK.	SUM OF ALLOWANCE.	ONE-THIRD.
		£. s. d.	£. s. d.
1	Lieutenant-colonel - - - - -	200 - -	66 13 4
1	Major - - - - -	150 - -	50 - -
8	Captains - - - - -	150 - -	400 - -
5	Lieutenants - - - - -	100 - -	166 13 4
14	Cadets - - - - -	20 - -	93 6 8
1	Dispenser - - - - -	100 - -	33 6 8
1	Surgeon - - - - -	150 - -	50 - -
2	Assistant-surgeons - - - - -	100 - -	66 13 4
1	Paymaster - - - - -	150 - -	50 - -
98	Non-commissioned officers - - - - -	20 - -	620 - -
724	Privates - - - - -	18 - -	4,344 - -
TOTAL of 1st instalment of one-third, per articles 16 and 32 of the "Conditions," pages 19 and 20 - - - - -			5,940 13 4

Dohms Post, 30 April 1857.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE of the Sum required by General Order, dated 20th April 1857, in accordance with Article 12 of the Conditions for providing Cooking Utensils and Tools for the Non-commissioned Officers and Men of the Third Regiment of German Military Settlers, including attached Cavalry.

NUMBER.	RANK.	
13	{ (Dohne Post, 5 August 1857.) } Gentlemen cadets, at 5 £. per man	£. s. d. 65 - -
817	Non-commissioned officers and privates, at 5 £. per man	4,085 - -
		£. 4,150 - -

Dohne Post,  
30 April 1857.

(signed) *Colin Maxwell*, Captain,  
Paymaster, 3d Regt. of G. M. S.  
(signed) *E. Kent Murray*,  
Lieutenant-colonel, Commanding.

Enclosure 2, in No. 1.

Encl 2, in No. 1.

Sir,

Downing-street, 29 January 1858.

I HAVE laid before Mr. Secretary Labouchere your letter of the 16th instant, transmitting estimates from the paymaster of the third corps of German military settlers at the Cape of Good Hope, for building houses for the officers and men, and for providing cooking utensils and tools, and stating that these estimates are submitted to Mr. Labouchere with the view to his taking such steps in the matter as may be necessary, as Lord Panmure does not know whether the local Government has exercised any control over the outlay, nor how far the existing wants of the settlement of the corps justify the expenditure for building huts.

Mr. Labouchere desires me to state, in reply, that the estimates submitted appear to be in strict accordance with the "Conditions" on which the military settlers were to be established in the colony. Instalments were to be made to the officers and men for building their houses; those instalments were to be regulated by the progress of the building, and the expenditure to be under the superintendence of the officers of the force appointed for that object.

The estimates sent home provide for the first instalment, and for an allowance on account of cooking utensils and tools.

Mr. Labouchere would be glad, therefore, to be informed as to the precise instructions which Lord Panmure may wish that the Governor should receive on the subject; but I am at the same time to remark, that much inconvenience would have been obviated if these estimates had been sent home through the Governor, instead of their being forwarded direct by the paymaster of the corps, and apparently without even the intervention of the officer in charge of the commissariat.

Sir B. Hawes.

I am, &c.  
(signed) *H. Merivale*.

Enclosure 3, in No. 1.

Encl. 3, in No. 1.

Sir,

War Office, 24 February 1858.

ADVERTING to the letter from this office of the 16th ultimo, and to your reply of the 29th following, relative to the expenditure which is being incurred by the German military settlers at the Cape of Good Hope in building houses for the officers and men, and for the provision of tools, cooking utensils, &c., and with reference to that portion of your letter in which you request to be informed as to the precise instructions which Lord Panmure may wish that the Governor of the colony should receive, I am directed to state that while his Lordship recognises, under the terms of agreement with these German settlers, the liability of the Imperial Government to meet the expenditure properly incurred under this head, he is nevertheless clearly of opinion that the Governor of the colony is responsible for the due administration of the money provided in virtue of such contract, and which is borne on the Army Estimates. This remark especially applies to the accruing expenditure under certain articles of the "Conditions," as quoted in the margin, and which expense, after being authenticated by the Governor of the colony, is to be accounted for to this office.

Articles 9, 12, 16,  
21, 30, and 34.



In conclusion, I am to add that the Secretary of State for War entirely concurs in your remark that much inconvenience would have been obviated if the estimates for the expense of building, &c. had been transmitted by the regimental paymaster through the civil Governor, and thereby have received the desired authenticity.

H. Merivale, Esq., &c. &c.,  
Colonial Office.

I have, &c.  
(signed) B. Haues.

— No. 2. —

(No. 14.)

No. 2.  
Right Hon. Lord  
Stanley, M. P., to  
Governor Sir G.  
Grey.  
26 March 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord Stanley, M. P., to  
Governor Sir George Grey.

Sir,

Downing-street, 26 March 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you copies of a correspondence between the War Office and this department, in which my attention is called to a general order issued by you, authorising the levy of a corps of cavalry, to be formed out of the corps of German Military Settlers at the Cape of Good Hope; and I am requested to point out to you the serious irregularity of this step.

Governor Sir George Grey,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) Stanley.

War Office,  
3 March 1858.  
Enclosure 1.  
Colonial Office,  
10 March 1858.  
Enclosure 2.  
War Office,  
22 March 1858.  
Enclosure 3.

Encl. 1, in No. 2.

Enclosure 1, in No. 2.

Sir,

War Office, 3 March 1858.

It appears by a general order, dated 6 March 1857, issued by the Governor at the Cape of Good Hope, that he has authorised the levy of a corps of cavalry which has been formed, as subsequently shown, out of the corps of German Military Settlers. By this proceeding a heavy expense has been entailed on this department, without authority, and even, so far as the Secretary of State for War is aware, without any intimation thereof being sent to this country at the time the corps was formed. Under these circumstances, Secretary Major-General Peel desires me to forward, for the consideration of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the enclosed copy of a letter from Baron Stutterheim, as containing the only information received by this department on the point, and to request that the Secretary of State for War may be informed whether the Colonial Office can furnish any further explanation on the subject.

H. Merivale, Esq., &c. &c.,  
Colonial Office.

I have, &c.  
(signed) B. Haues.

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure 1, in No. 2.

Sir,

Fenton's Hotel, 9 February 1858.

In reply to your letter of 8th instant, No. 28, I have the honour to state that, by authority of the Governor of the Cape Colony, a corps of cavalry, of 160 dragoons, was formed out of the remnant of the cavalry of the late British German Legion. The formation of that corps was deemed necessary by the highest civil and military authorities of the colony, at the very critical time of the arrival of the German Military Settlers at the Cape of Good Hope.

The Under Secretary of State for War.

I have, &c.  
(signed) H. V. Stutterheim,  
Major-General.

Encl. 2, in No. 2.

Enclosure 2, in No. 2.

Sir,

Downing-street, 10 March 1858.

I HAVE laid before Lord Stanley your letter of the 3d instant, relative to a general order issued by the Governor of the Cape of Good Hope, on the 6th March 1857, for the levy of a corps of cavalry, which was formed, as subsequently shown, out of the corps of German Military Settlers; and, in answer to your inquiry whether this office can furnish any further explanation on the subject, I am to request that you will state to Secretary Major-General Peel, that the only intimation given by Governor Sir G. Grey of his having taken such a step, is contained

contained in a despatch dated the 25th March 1857, which reports the improving aspect of affairs in Kaffraria, and in which he states that he had "caused measures to be taken, by mounting part of the military settlers, and by increasing the Cape corps to its full authorised establishment," to remedy the deficiency of cavalry.

Sir B. Hawes.  
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.  
(signed) H. Merivale.

Enclosure 3, in No. 2.

Encl. 3, in No. 2.

Sir,  
I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, on the subject of a general order issued by the Governor of the Cape of Good Hope, authorising the levy of a corps of cavalry to be formed out of the corps of German Military Settlers, and to request that the Secretary of State for the Colonies will point out to the Governor of the Cape the serious irregularity which has been committed in this transaction.

I am to add that the financial arrangements of the War Department have been affected to a very inconvenient extent by the unauthorised expenditure which has been incurred at the Cape during the past year; and Major-General Peel requests that steps may be taken to guard, so far as possible, against a repetition of such proceedings.

H. Merivale, Esq.,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) B. Hawes.

— No. 3. —

(No. 19.)

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord Stanley, M. P., to  
Governor Sir George Grey.

Sir,  
I TRANSMIT to you copies of a correspondence between the War Office and this department, on the subject of the issue, upon your requisition, of 2,000 pairs of boots for the German military settlers at the Cape of Good Hope, and I have to instruct you to pay into the military chest the cost of these boots, out of the sum appropriated by the Parliament of the Cape to meet expenses connected with the introduction of the German Legion into the colony.

Governor Sir George Grey,  
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.  
(signed) Stanley.

Enclosure 1, in No. 3.

No. 3.  
Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M. P., to Governor Sir G. Grey.  
22 April 1858.

War Office,  
9 Feb. 1858.  
Enclosure 1.  
Colonial Office,  
24 Feb. 1858.  
Enclosure 2.  
War Office,  
13 March 1858.  
Enclosure 3.

Encl. 1, in No. 3.

Sir,  
I AM directed by Lord Panmure to transmit to you, for the information and consideration of Mr. Secretary Labouchere, the enclosed copies of a correspondence between this department and the Lieutenant-general commanding at the Cape of Good Hope, on the subject of the issue, on the requisition of the Governor, of 2,000 pairs of boots for the German military settlers, and 140 suits of clothing for a mounted Hottentot levy.

The question of the issue of clothing to the Hottentot levy may be regarded as disposed of by the orders which have been given for the absorption of the men composing that body into the corps of Cape Mounted Rifles; but Lord Panmure cannot find in the conditions for the location of the British German Legion in South Africa, as agreed upon by Her Majesty's Government, anything to warrant the statement contained in the letter addressed by Baron Von Stutterheim to Governor Sir George Grey, on the 2d April, to the effect that the men are entitled to fresh supplies either of boots or clothing; and he requests to be informed whether the Governor has received any instructions from the Secretary of State for the Colonies which would justify or explain the proceedings adopted in this case. Should no such instructions have been given, Lord Panmure would request that Mr. Labouchere will call upon the Governor to take immediate steps for reimbursing Her Majesty's Government the expenses incurred.

His Lordship avails himself of this opportunity of inquiring whether any portion of the large contribution promised by the Governor towards the cost of sending these settlers to the Cape has been yet remitted to this country, and if so, in what form.

H. Merivale, Esq.,  
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.  
(signed) B. Hawes.

Sub-enclosure 1.  
Sub-enclosure 2.  
Sub-enclosure 3.  
Sub-enclosure 4.

Article 26.

## CORRESPONDENCE RELATING TO

## Sub-Enclosure 1, to Enclosure 1, in No. 3.

Sir,

War Office, Pall Mall, 1 September 1857.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I have received a letter from the respective officers at Cape Town, reporting that, in obedience to a general order issued by you, they had authorised the sum of 1,127 *l. 5 s.* to be expended in purchasing 2,000 pairs of boots for the German military settlers, and 140 suits of clothing for a mounted Hottentot levy.

With reference to that communication, I have to acquaint you that Parliament has not voted any funds for meeting this expenditure, and that the men in question had no right whatever to a gratuitous issue of clothing at the public expense.

I remark further, that you have furnished me with no explanation of the grounds on which the above order was given; and, in the absence of such explanation, I cannot regard it otherwise than as given contrary to regulation, and without authority.

I must, therefore, leave you to recover the amount by stoppage from the men to whom the clothing was issued.

The General Officer Commanding H. M. Forces,  
Cape of Good Hope.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *Paumotu.*

## Sub-Enclosure 2, to Enclosure 1, in No. 3.

Head Quarters, Graham's Town, Cape of Good Hope,  
6 November 1857.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st September last, relative to my having ordered the purchase of 2,000 pairs of boots for the German military settlers, and 140 suits of clothing for a mounted Hottentot levy.

In reply I have the honour, with regard to the former, to transmit herewith the enclosed copies of letters conveying to me the authority of his Excellency, Governor Sir George Grey, for the purchase of the boots in question; and with regard to the latter, I have also the honour to enclose copy of my letter, which I addressed to you on the 21st July last, annexing copies of the correspondence on the subject of the organisation of a Hottentot mounted levy, by order of the Governor.

I trust this explanation may show that I have not acted contrary to regulation, and without authority, in carrying out the orders of the Governor in these matters.

I regret that my letter of the 21st July should not have reached you in time to have afforded this information previous to the despatch of your letter under reply; and I hope that this explanation may prove to be satisfactory.

The Right Honourable  
the Secretary of State for War.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *J. Jackson,*  
*C. F. Lieut.-General.*

## Sub-Enclosure 3, to Enclosure 1, in No. 3.

Sir,

Cape Town, 16 April 1857.

I HAVE the honour, by desire of his Excellency Sir George Grey, to forward the enclosed letter from Major-general Baron Von Stutterheim; and as it appears that the German military settlers are entitled to an issue of boots, to request you will be so good as to move his Excellency Lieutenant-general Sir James Jackson to give the necessary directions to the War Department at Cape Town to purchase the boots required.

Lieutenant-Colonel Smyth,  
Deputy Quartermaster General,  
King William's Town.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *R. Bates,*  
Major, Military Secretary.

## Sub-Enclosure 4, to Enclosure 1, in No. 3.

Sir,

King William's Town, 2 April 1857.

I BEG leave to bring to your Excellency's notice the fact of the men under my command being totally unsupplied with boots; only seven cases, containing 530 pairs, having been sent out from England with the new clothing.

The issue of new boots previous to embarking was objected to by the authorities at home, on the ground that some of the men, not having been actually 12 months in the service, they were not entitled to the benefit of the yearly issue of new clothing, as authorised by Her Majesty's warrant.

This objection no longer exists; the men have worn their first issue of clothing for more than the prescribed period.

Therefore they have become entitled to a fresh supply.

This

This appears to have been anticipated by the Home Department, as far as coats and trousers are concerned, but the boots have been omitted to the extent of about 2,000 pairs.

Under these circumstances I would respectfully request your Excellency to cause this omission to be remedied as early as possible, some of the men going almost barefooted already, whereby they are rendered unfit for any service that may be required from them, either as soldiers or settlers.

I have, &c.  
(signed) R. Stutterheim,  
Major-General.

His Excellency Sir George Grey, K.C.B.

Enclosure 2, in No. 3.

Encl. 2, in No. 3.

Sir,

Downing-street, 24 February 1858.

I HAVE laid before Mr. Secretary Labouchere your letter of the 9th instant, transmitting copies of a correspondence on the subject of the issue, on the requisition of the Government of the Cape of Good Hope, of 2,000 pairs of boots for the German military settlers, and I am to request that you will state to Lord Panmure, that the 28th section of the "conditions" for the location of the German Legion in South Africa, states that "the renewal of the clothing, &c. of the Legion, is reserved for the consideration of the Imperial Government," and that Baron Stutterheim represented to the Governor, that the home authorities appeared to have anticipated a fresh issue of clothing, by supplying coats and trousers, but that only 530 pairs of boots had been sent, leaving a deficiency of 2,000 pairs.

He therefore requested the Governor to cause this omission, for so he considered it, to be remedied, some of the men being already barefooted.

Mr. Labouchere is of opinion that if these circumstances are correctly stated, the Governor had no alternative but to authorise an issue of boots.

With respect to the inquiry in the last paragraph of your letter, whether any remittance has been made from the Cape in repayment of the expense of sending out the military settlers, I am to state that no remittance has been received on that account, which may arise in some measure from the delay which has occurred in establishing the men in their locations, and from the fact of no monies having been as yet realised by the sale of lands in their vicinity.

Sir B. Hawes,  
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.  
(signed) H. Merivale.

Enclosure 3, in No. 3.

Encl. 3, in No. 3.

Sir,

War Office, 13 March 1858.

HAVING laid before the Secretary of State for War your letter of the 24th ultimo, respecting the supply of clothing for the German military settlers at the Cape, I am directed to request that you will observe to Lord Stanley that the "conditions" from which the passage quoted in your letter is taken are not those which were finally agreed upon and subscribed to by Lord Panmure on behalf of Her Majesty's Government. A copy of these is herewith enclosed, and it will be seen that no allusion is therein made to the renewal of the clothing for these men. It is true that a quantity of spare clothing, of an obsolete pattern, was presented to them as likely to be of use; but this was done as a matter of favour, and all parties concerned, including Sir James Jackson (in a despatch from Lord Panmure, under date 2d January 1857), were given distinctly to understand that the supply would not be renewed at the expense of this department.

Under these circumstances, Major-general Peel is of opinion that the expenses which have been incurred on this account should be recovered from the Colonial Government.

I am to add that the sale of lands in the vicinity of the settlers' locations, being one of the sources on which the Local Government relied for reimbursing Her Majesty's Government the expenses incurred in sending out these Germans, Major-general Peel is aware that the non-realisation of such sales hitherto may, in part, account for the delay in forwarding the stipulated remittance, but that this explanation cannot apply to the 40,000*l.* voted long since by the Colonial Legislature towards this purpose.

H. Merivale, Esq.  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) J. R. Godley.

— No. 4.—

(No. 35.)

No. 4.  
Right Hon. Lord  
Stanley, M. P., to  
Governor Sir G.  
Grey.

1 June 1858.

\* Page 37.

14 May. War Office.  
Enclosure.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord Stanley, M. P., to Governor Sir George Grey.

Sir.

Downing-street, 1 June 1858.

I HAVE received your despatch, No. 27,\* of the 22d of March, containing your answer to the intimation from the War Department, conveyed to you by my predecessor, that the German Legion was not to be kept under arms at the expense of this country after the 31st of March 1858.

Having referred your despatch to Secretary Major-general Peel, I enclose, for your information and guidance, a copy of the answer which has been received.

I assure you that I am satisfied that in keeping the German Legion under arms, you were actuated by a sense of duty, and by your conviction of the necessity of that step for the public interest. I also much regret any inconvenience to which you may have been put by the fact that the final orders of the War Department, for ceasing to retain the Germans on full pay at the charge of this country, arrived within so short a time of the period at which the measure was to take effect.

On the substance of the question, however, Her Majesty's Government are bound to be guided by the terms on which the Legion were sent out, by the communication made of those terms to Parliament, and by the general demands of the public service.

It was expressly recorded that the military settlers were not to be kept on full pay at the expense of this country, unless they were called out for service against an enemy in the field. I regret, therefore, that, in conformity with the contents of the enclosed letter from the War Department, it is out of my power to convey to you any alteration of the decision which you have previously received on the subject.

Governor Sir George Grey,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) Stanley.

Encl. in No. 4.

Enclosure in No. 4.

Sir,

War Office, 14 May 1858.

I HAVE laid before the Secretary of State for War your letter of the 4th instant, enclosing a despatch from the Governor of the Cape of Good Hope, in which he explains the reasons which render it necessary, in his opinion, to continue the German military settlers on full pay, and expresses his intention of doing his utmost to induce Lieutenant-general Sir James Jackson to refrain from fully acting on the instructions conveyed to him on the subject by Lord Panmure.

Major-general Peel desires me to request that you will state to Lord Stanley, that as it is evident that these military settlers were not called out for service against an enemy in the field, on which ground alone would he be justified by the letter or spirit of the conditions of settlement in sanctioning their continuance on full pay, and no provision having been made in the Estimates for the present year for the payment to these men of more than the stipulated allowances, he feels that no discretion is left to him in the matter, and that the instructions issued to Lieutenant-general Sir James Jackson must be strictly adhered to.

H. Merivale, Esq.  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) B. Hawes.

159

GERMAN EMIGRATION  
(CAPE OF GOOD HOPE).

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COPIES and EXTRACTS of DESPATCHES concerning GERMAN EMIGRATION to the *Cape of Good Hope*, from the Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Governor of the *Cape of Good Hope*, from December 1806 up to the present Date; also, of DESPATCHES, since those last presented, concerning the GERMAN MILITARY SETTLERS at the *Cape of Good Hope*, up to the present Date.

(*Sir De Lacy Evans.*)

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*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,*  
6 July 1838.

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[*Price 6 d.*]

389.

*Under 8 oz.*

561

IMMIGRANTS AND LIBERATED AFRICANS.

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RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons,  
dated 9 February 1858 :—for,

“ RETURN, showing the Number of IMMIGRANTS and LIBERATED AFRICANS  
admitted into each of the *British West India Colonies*, as well as the  
Places from whence they were introduced, for each Year since 1847 :”

“ And, similar RETURN for *Mauritius* (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper,  
No. 145, of Session 1857).”

Colonial Office, }  
1 March 1858. }

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CARNARVON.

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(Mr. Moffatt.)

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*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,*  
*1 March 1858.*

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**TOTAL**

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32

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323

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7,323

908

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11,283

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**TOTAL**

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1,119

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**TOTAL**

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86

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10

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1,873

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Darin  
 Great  
 Havai  
 Britis  
 Saba  
 Sierra  
 Kroo  
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Darin  
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IMMIGRANTS  
AND LIBERATED AFRICANS.

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RETURN, showing the Number of IMMIGRANTS  
and LIBERATED AFRICANS admitted into each  
of the *British West India Colonies*, and  
*Mauritius*, as well as the Places from whence  
they were introduced, for each Year since 1847.

(*Mr. Moffatt.*)

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*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,*  
*1 March 1858.*

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